

THE TIMES

1785-1985

Tomorrow

Southern tale
James Fenton on
Purgatory
The state between
Heaven and Hell
Question time
The horrors of
being interviewed
on the radio
The year ahead
Anniversaries of 1985
for your diary
Loyal opposition
Ronald Buti explains
why Mrs Thatcher's
Tory opponents
are wrong

Bicentenary series

On this
day...

Today *The Times* prints the first in a series of daily news reports reprinted from issues of the corresponding date published in the past 200 years. Today's report, (on page 11) concerning the establishment of soup kitchens in London, comes from *The Times* of January 2, 1800. On this day will be a regular feature of the letters page throughout our bicentenary year.

Leading article, page 11
Spectrum, page 15
When cotton was king, page 25

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio £2,000 prize for Monday was won outright by Mr J. S. Goldsmith of Wood Green, London. There is a further £2,000 to be won today. Prizes list, page 14; how to play, Information Service, back page.

Gandhi selects
Cabinet team

Mr J. S. Gandhi, re-elected Prime Minister of India, has chosen a Cabinet which he hopes will fulfil his campaign promises to govern with honesty and efficiency. Page 6

Murder hunt

Detectives are investigating the murder of a wealthy businessman who was shot by intruders in his north London home when he returned from a party. Page 3

Record start

The pound starts 1985 at a record low of \$1.587 against the dollar, while shares will begin the new year at record highs. Market report, page 17

No-strike test

No-strike agreements in electronics factories face their first test with moves towards binding arbitration in a pay dispute at Sanyo in Lowestoft. Page 2

Subway 'hero'

A man, regarded by many as a hero, gave himself up after the shooting of four youths on a New York subway train before Christmas. Page 5

Arm sewn back

The arm of Rick Allen, the rock drummer, was stitched back by surgeons after being severed in a road crash. Page 3

Lee's likely heir

Mr Goh Chok Tong emerged as Mr Lee Kuan Yew's most likely heir apparent when the new Singapore Cabinet was announced. Page 4

Two at the top

Tottenham Hotspur, 2-1 winners at Arsenal, and Everton, who beat Luton by the same score, have established a five-point lead at the top of the first division. Page 18

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Features, pages 8-10
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Militants attack Scargill for lack of initiative

Mr Arthur Scargill, NUM president, and his wife joined a picket line near Doncaster and said he was as confident of victory as he had been last March.

The miners' strike has cost £2.4 billion to the end of 1984 and may now be costing £85 million a week, according to a firm of city analysts.

By Barrie Clement and Tim Jones

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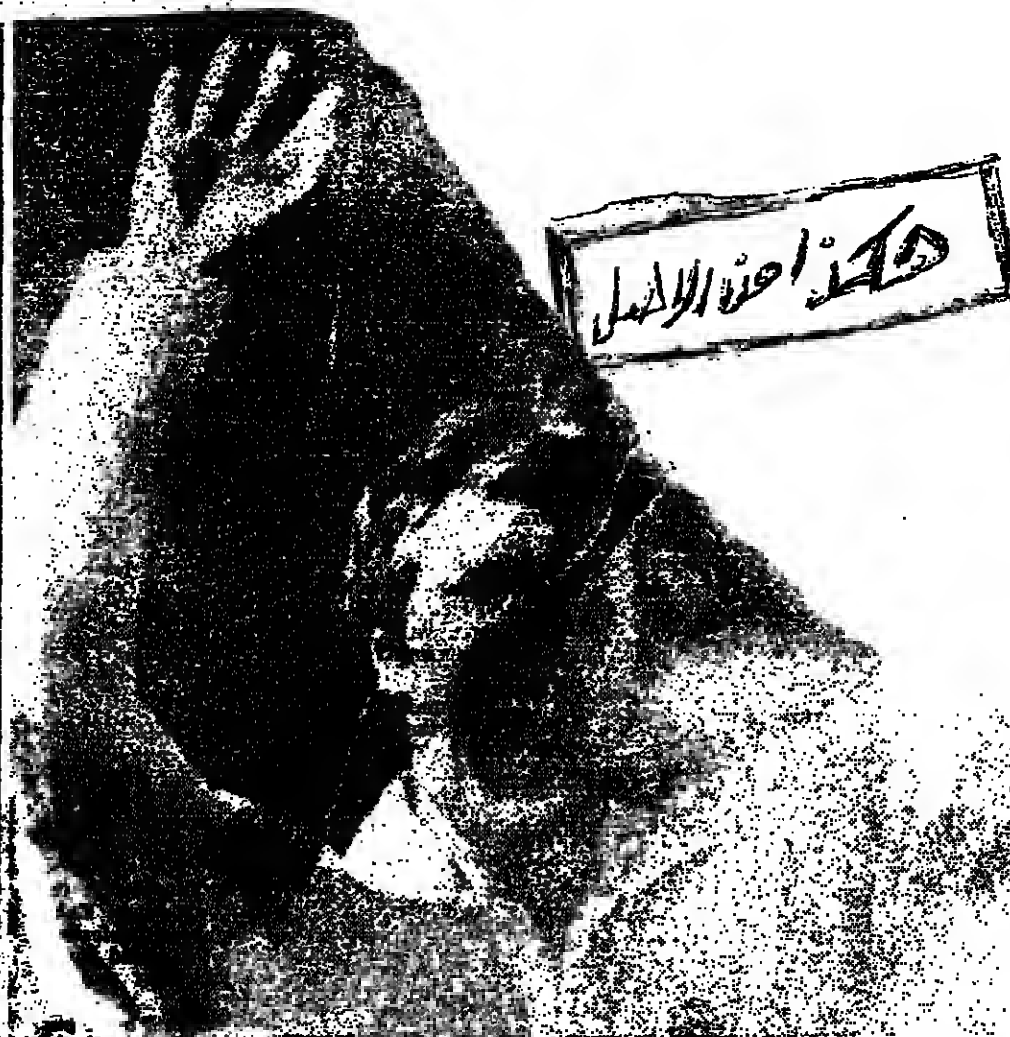
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Wesley Hall, the 38-year-old Australian spin bowler playing in only his third test match, took six wickets for 54 runs to skittle out West Indies, forcing them to follow on in the fifth and final Test at Sydney. It was the first follow-on for West Indies since the 1978-79 Test in Delhi Report, page 17.

Hundreds die in Unita raid

By Richard Dowden

Hundreds of Angolan soldiers and Unita guerrillas were killed in a pitched battle at Cafunfo in northern Angola before the rebels overran the town and kidnapped the expatriates working there, including at least three Britons and three Americans.

According to diplomatic sources in Luanda, witnesses said the town was deserted when it was later recaptured by government troops. A Hercules transport aircraft, owned by Transamerica Airlines of California, was burning on the runway. Government troops were chasing Unita guerrillas for those killed in Saturday's attack.

In a similar episode last February, 77 expatriates were captured at the isolated diamond mining town, including 17 Britons. They were marched 600 miles through the bush before being taken by lorry to Unita's headquarters at Jamba in south-eastern Angola. All the hostages were released unharmed.

A spokesman for the Foreign Office said there were five Britons in Cafunfo at the time of Saturday's attack. Only one had been found safe and unharmed.

It is assumed that the others, including Mr Glen Dixon, an engineer from Leicester with Intraco, a mining equipment company, and Mr Paul Huggins, a loadmaster with Transamerica, have been taken hostage.

Unita has named three Britons and they do not correspond with those the Foreign Office believes were in Cafunfo.

The other hostages include the American pilot and two of his crew and, according to Unita, 17 Filipinos.

In June last year, Dr Jonas Savimbi, the Unita leader, told *The Times* that he would attack the diamond mines again but did not wish to take more British hostages.

Cafunfo, a long way west of the main mining area and the smallest of the three mines, is vulnerable, but its garrison was reinforced by Angolan and Cuban troops, after last year's attack.

In London, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, said that taking hostages was purely for propaganda purposes and seriously damaged the Unita cause.

It is understood that Miss Tessa Selesby, head of the Central Africa desk at the Foreign Office, has contacted the Unita representatives in London to express Britain's concern.

"Consequently, we have revised upwards our predictions for starts and completions to about 150,000. However, much will depend on interest rates and on whether more land seems likely to be made available in the places where people most want to live."

He added: "It does seem that we will soon, as a nation, have to choose between creating new jobs by allowing industry to go where it wants and building houses to suit this need - or accepting that industrial recovery will be slower than it otherwise would be."

"The experience of the 1960s suggests that long-term jobs are not created by forcing or enticing industry to places where it would not otherwise choose to go."

'Riff-raff' blamed for anti-Tamil terror

From Trevor Fishlock, Jaffna

Some senior officers in the Sri Lankan armed forces "feel helpless with the riff-raff" under their command, according to a former naval officer.

The largely Sinhalese forces are engaged in a bitter campaign against Tamil separatists in the north and east of the island. But the army's rampages, looting murders and lack of discipline are terrifying the civilian population.

Captain P Ambalawarne, a master mariner and retired Sri Lanka Navy officer, said he was prepared to give his name for publication because he felt that educated and responsible people should speak out.

"There is chaos here," he said. "There is no military solution to the problem. We urgently need a political initiative or this country will be given over to terrorism. The militants on both sides will take over. There are a lot of people dying. A lot of restrictions. Time is short and there will be no limit to the violence unless something is done quickly. We are seeing the results of bad work by politicians. The masses are being stirred up."

"I feel some sympathy for the forces because there is a lot of uncertainty. No service can work without clear instructions. There is a lack of clear-cut orders because Government policies are changed so often. There is much indiscipline in the lower ranks and men do not know what they are doing."

Staff at Jaffna general hospital have written to President Jayewardene protesting that doctors have not been issued with curfew passes, that there is no fuel for the ambulance, that drugs are in short supply, that it is becoming hard to find food for patients and staff and that the treatment for patients suffering from diabetes, asthma and hypertension has been so disrupted that many are dying at home.

Staff told me they see many victims of Army beatings. Typically, boys emerge from interrogation and spells in custody with multiple bruises caused by thrashings with pipes filled with sand. Some have heel fractures, having

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Burglary theory after wealthy businessman is shot dead

By Stewart Tisdler, Crime Reporter

A big police investigation was under way in north London yesterday after a wealthy businessman died when intruders broke into his luxury home little more than an hour into the new year.

Mr Aristotle Constantinou, aged 40, was shot a number of times after he and his wife Elena arrived home at their detached house in the Bishop's Avenue, Hampstead, after a new year party.

Yesterday detectives were waiting to interview Mrs Constantinou, who is in her twenties, to discover what happened in the house at about 1.30 yesterday morning. The house was empty apart from Mr and Mrs Constantinou, whose three children were staying with friends for the night.

Police believe the intruders were burglars and discount any connection between the shooting and Mr Constantinou's



Mr Constantinou: Died after new year party

Cypriot origin. Last night a police spokesman said that although a full inventory was not complete some cash is thought to be missing.

The police need to discover whether the couple came home and checked upon the intruders, whether the intruders broke in after the Constantinouts had arrived home and whether there was an attempt to force the couple to reveal the whereabouts of jewelry and cash.

The dead man was an extremely wealthy dress manufacturer with offices in London's West End. His home is in one of the most expensive roads in London.

Running up to the Kenwood estate in Hampstead the road is known locally as "Millionaire's Row". Many of the houses are large, detached buildings with elaborate security precautions. Many foreign families live in the area.

The investigation is being headed by Det. Sup Robert Green, who has set up a squad of detectives at Finchley police station. The police are looking for witnesses who may have seen anything suspicious in the area north of Hampstead Heath between midnight and 1.45 am yesterday.

It is likely that the intruders had a car nearby, but police have not disclosed any sightings.

Scotland Yard spokesman said the victim was shot "several times" but he refused to say what type of gun was used. "There were signs of forced entry to the house and first indications suggest there were two intruders", he said.

'Trendy' teachers idea dismissed

Teachers are still very much in charge of what goes on in primary school classrooms, and concentrate very much on the basics, according to report from an educational research body. It denies the widespread idea that trendy teachers let children do as they like.

The report is based on research sponsored by the Department of Education and Science in which 2,528 teachers from large and small junior schools were questioned.

The findings, published in *Education Research*, the journal of the National Foundation of Educational Research, show that the vast majority of junior school teachers are firmly in charge of their classrooms.

They decide what the children will do. They also prefer the traditional style of teaching to a reliance on discovery methods. More and more are teaching the whole class instead of splitting it up into groups or individuals.

There is no need to exert them to go back to the basics, because teaching the basic skills in English and mathematics seems to be the "predominant feature of junior school classrooms".

Miss Joan Barker Lunn, the researcher, says the situation disclosed by the survey is in

marked contrast with the assumed stereotype that was prevalent in the 1960s and 1970s.

The Plowden Committee, set up in 1963 to inquire into the state of primary education, lent its approval to what was described as progressive education.

People accepted the view and, despite the absence of supporting evidence and contradictory findings since then, the belief still exists to some extent, the report says.

Diaries show 50-hour week

Teachers work an average 50 hours a week, about 10 hours more than they did a decade ago, according to the preliminary findings of a survey by the National Union of Teachers (Colin Hughes writes).

The union has asked its 235,000 members to compile work diaries to provide evidence on its claim that hard-pressed staff are having to put in longer hours to keep up with increased demands.

Mr Douglas McAvo, the union's deputy general secretary, said that the diaries, being sent in at the rate of 100 a week, demonstrate a "massive professional commitment".



Topsy-turvy view of the new year: Emma Rosen, aged five, trying to stand on her head at yesterday's Playshop in the foyer of the Queen Elizabeth Hall, London. Children were shown the safe way to do acrobatics and tumbling.

Coroner's Christmas fire 'horror'

An inquest opened on Monday into the deaths of nine people in a house fire at Bury, Greater Manchester, on Christmas Day.

During the hearing, where evidence of identification and medical facts were given, Dr Geoffrey Garrett, a Home Office pathologist, said that all nine died by inhaling fumes in the fire at Massey Street. The victims included five children.

Mr Bryan North, the coroner, said: "No one who attended at the scene of this fire on Christmas morning, as I did, could fail to be moved at the horrifying tragedy. This was a time when a family had come together to celebrate the festive season."

Fourteen people were in the house at the time of the blaze. The dead were Mrs Elizabeth Carroll, aged 47; her father, Mr Walter Jones, aged 76, a retired lorry driver, her daughters Joanne Carroll, aged 15 and Mrs Laura Fry, aged 28, of Gigg Lane, Bury; grandchildren Scott Fry, aged six; Lyndsey Fry, aged three; Barry Gaunt, aged two and Dean Gaunt, aged four; and Mrs Fry's boyfriend Mr Darrell Smith, aged 24, a machinist of Rutland Drive, Bury.

Dr Garrett said that the four adults had all been drinking, but he said: "I think they would all have been capable of reacting." Evidence of identification, based on clothing and other possessions, was given by relatives.

Police Constable Joseph Cassells said: "All the identifications had to be carried out in this way because of the state of the bodies due to burning. It would have been very distressing for the family to have to see them." He said that investigations into the cause of the fire were continuing.

Dr Garrett said he had no information on the source of the fire.

The inquest was adjourned to a date to be fixed.

Girl of 8 and brother die in blaze

A girl aged eight and her half-brother aged 18 died in a house fire at Craigavon, co. Armagh, Northern Ireland, early yesterday.

The house on the Kilwillkie estate was engulfed by flames at about 4am. Neighbours tried to persuade Katrina Hamill to jump from her first-floor bedroom window. But she appeared frightened and after a short time disappeared. Her half-brother, Patrick Duffy, was trapped in another bedroom.

Their sister, Sharon, aged 12, and brother, Colin, aged 17, escaped together with Mr Raymond Hamill and his wife. Also at Craigavon, police found the body of Mr Robert Allen,

aged 23, of Richill, co. Armagh, who drowned when his car plunged into a lake on Monday night. A woman aged 20 was rescued from the water immediately after the accident.

In Anglesey, Miss Susan Davies, aged 20, of Ciche Hill, Llandegfan, died and Mr Anthony Kelly, also aged 20, of Kelly's farm, Llanddinef, was badly hurt when they were hit by a minibus at Llanfair early yesterday. They were among a group of ten pedestrians.

In Dewsbury, West Yorkshire, Mrs Edna Earnshaw, aged 63, was killed by an explosion in her home on New Year's Eve. Gas engineers, who later found a broken gas main near by, tried to pull her from the

ensuing blaze but were beaten back.

In Gravesend on New Year's Eve, Mr José Luis Nunes, aged 30, of Rochester Road, died after being found with multiple injuries near his car.

Two cousins, Mary Joyce and Mary Madden, both aged 21, were killed yesterday when the car they were in went over an embankment on Achill Island, Co Mayo, in the Irish Republic.

A man was in hospital in Torquay after a 20ft pile of beer kegs collapsed on top of him on New Year's Eve. Mr Andrew Miller, aged 27, suffered multiple injuries in the incident at the wine and spirit wholesalers of Tolchard and Son.

Drummer 'critical' after arm is sewn back

Surgeons have saved the arm of the rock drummer Rick Allen after it was severed in a road crash, but despite a series of operations the musician was critically ill in a hospital intensive care unit yesterday.

Mr Allen, aged 21, who is a member of the Def Leppard group, had interrupted a recording schedule in America to visit his parents and relatives in his home city of Sheffield.

The accident happened on Monday as he drove towards Sheffield on the A57 Snake Pass about five miles outside the city with his Dutch fiancée Miriam Barendsen, aged 22, who suffered head injuries.

The car, a Corvette Stingray, failed to negotiate a bend and Mr Allen was thrown out. His fiancée was trapped inside the car.

Ambulancemen recovered the severed left arm and an operation using microsurgery to stitch it back was carried out at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield. Further operations were carried out yesterday including exploratory ones to assess internal injuries. The drummer was said to be in a critical condition.

The group which formed in 1978 has never had a big hit in Britain but has sold more than 10 million LPs in the US. The last "Pyromania" was voted best album last year in the record industry's Grammy awards.

The original five members of the group - one has left and been replaced - began their careers rehearsing in a derelict garage in Sheffield.

They financed their first record which attracted interest from the music industry and they were signed up by Phonogram in 1979. Despite not becoming stars in Britain they took America by storm and have a huge following.

Mr Allen's parents were at his bedside at the hospital yesterday.

Beaufort grave damage charge

Terence James Helsby, of White Hart Lane, Tottenham, London, and John Christopher Kurtin, of Kingsland Avenue, Coventry, both aged 21, appeared before Avon North Magistrates, near Bristol, on Monday, in connection with offences at the Duke of Beaufort's grave during the Christmas holiday.

They were jointly charged with the theft of a cross and with criminal damage to a gravestone and boundary wall at Badminton Church, Avon, where the 10th Duke of Beaufort is buried. Both men were remanded in police custody for three days pending further inquiries.

Golf course murder remanded

Colin Frederick Campbell, aged 37, of Beresford Avenue, Hanwell, west London, was remanded in custody for three days yesterday, accused of murdering Deirdre Sainsbury, aged 29, an anti-cruise missile demonstrator at Greenham Common, whose naked body was found on a golf course at Denham, Buckinghamshire, two days before Christmas.

Baby 'stable'

Catherine McTiernan, aged eight months, Britain's youngest liver transplant patient, was said yesterday to be stable and breathing without the aid of a ventilator. "She has had her first oral feed since the operation, a few sips of fluid," Mr John Edwards, spokesman for Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, said.

Hospital fall

Police and health authority officials are investigating how Mr Reginald Watts, aged 36, fell 50 ft from a window at Princess Margaret hospital, Swindon, Wiltshire. Mr Watts, who has multiple injuries, was described as poorly yesterday.

1985, year of youth and teddies

Emphasis put on help for Third World

The opening of International Youth Year (IYY) England on January 16 at Coventry Cathedral, attended by the Prince of Wales, will launch a programme of nationwide events organized by 65 local groups.

In March an Oxfam/IYY fete at Battersea Park, London, will focus attention on youth in the Third World.

Further highlights include the National Youth Festival Week in April with song, dance, music and theatre, a street arts festival in the North-west in July, and a mass lobby of Parliament on youth issues in early November.

The year's patron is the Duke of Westminster, the president is the pop singer Paul Weller, and support is provided from Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, entertainers and athletes.

The year's themes are participation, development and peace. Groups will examine ways of overcoming obstacles preventing the young from fully participating at work and in colleges, clubs and trade unions.

Young people will also be encouraged to contribute to progress in the developing countries

Bears in every stocking for next Christmas

By Robin Young

Before the tinsel and decorations have been cleared away, marketers must have set their sights on Christmas 1985. This, we are promised, will prove to be the Year of the Bear.

The International Teddy Bear Club claims a membership growing at the rate of 1,000 a month in 71 countries, and its aim is to monopolize Christmas stockings in 1985 for six-inch tall teddy bears made, in British design, in Korea.

Even a bear of very little brain could see that all the dolls and toys which have sold particularly well in recent years had American origins. But this is to be the year that teddy bears seize the initiative back for Britain. Teddies are intended to supplant Cabbage Patch dolls in 1985.

Those who join the International Teddy Bear Club (promoted by the same people who run Joy George's Culture Club) get a teddy with a plastic nose and simulated bow tie, an enamel badge, and a membership card. To help to sell the idea, the originators have produced a 1985 Teddy Bear calendar and a teddy-shaped picture disc of the

original recording of "Teddy Bears' Picnic".

Tonight, as luck would have it, there is a teddy bears' concert at the Barbican Centre, London, with personal appearances by Rupert Bear, Paddington Bear, Baloo from *The Jungle Book*, Winnie the Pooh, Little John Bear from *Robin Hood*, and the latest in the bear family's gallery of fame, George, the Hofmeister lager bear.

Children who attend the concert accompanied by their teddy bears will be admitted at a reduced price, and the International Teddy Bear Club will be out in force.

Next week teddy goes to the United Nations, which is seeking an emblem with which to promote UNICEF's concept of 1985 as the year of youth. If the audition goes successfully, the year of youth and the year of the bear will make common cause rather than squabbling over which has prior claim to the coming 365 days.

Membership of the International Teddy Bear Club costs £5.49 (including postage of member's bear) and so far 10,000 have been sold in seven weeks. But the group's eyes are firmly set on next Christmas.

George Best moved to open prison

George Best, the former football star, who was jailed two weeks ago for a drink-driving offence, will be moved today to Ford open prison near Arundel, West Sussex.

Mr Bill McMurdo, his manager, said Best had not requested the move, from Pentonville Prison. But he added: "I understand Ford has a football

team and that is sure to please George."

Ford Prison has several farm buildings and Prisoners lead an open life, with a number of privileges not allowed in closed prisons.

Prisoners are expected to work making shirts or assembling small electronics units and

are mostly kept under trust that they will not abscond. The prison has an active branch of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The prison football team, Ford United, plays in the Second Division of the West Sussex League. Players are not chosen unless they are willing to do exercises and football training twice a week.

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Deng fires a propaganda salvo against fears of return to capitalism

Peking (Reuters) - Mr Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese leader, yesterday fired a new year propaganda salvo defending the new direction in which he is taking China and identifying industrial change as the crucial issue for the country in 1985.

Chinese newspapers splashed the text of a key policy speech across their front pages, reassuring old comrades that China would remain socialist while marching towards a new prosperity. "The basic things will be state-owned, publicly owned," the 80-year-old leader said.

But he advocated greater opening to the outside world as part of China's programme to quadruple output and turn itself into an economic power in the 21st century.

Mr Deng said the open policy designed to attract overseas investment and technology would not undermine communism. "We cannot fail to open up the open-door policy cannot harm us," he declared.

"I think some old comrades fear that after they fought all their lives for socialism, for communism, suddenly capitalism is coming back. They can't bear it, they are afraid," he said. But their fears were baseless. "It is harmless, it is harmless," he said of the open policy. Any bad ideological influences coming in could be dealt with.

China's isolation, for nearly 200 years had made the country poor, backward and ignorant. In

China cuts out the midday siesta

The new year holiday gave Peking's public servants one last chance for a noon nap. From Monday the state has halved the two-hour lunch break (Reuters reports from Peking).

Instead of a refreshing midday siesta and work until 6pm the 60,000 officials will have only an hour's break in the middle of the day, then leave their offices at 5pm.

The change has been cut partly because the long lunch brought in complaints from foreign businessmen seeking contracts, the newspaper *China Daily* said.

In the 1950s, China had opened up only to the Soviet Union and East Europe and later closed its doors again. As a result, China had made little progress, Mr Deng said.

If China closed its doors again, it would not be able to achieve its target of catching up with the economically developed countries within the next 50 years.

He defended his concept of "one country, two systems" under which Hong Kong will be allowed to retain its capitalist lifestyle when Britain returns the colony to China in 12 years time.

"When we speak of two systems," he said, "it is because the main part of China, with a population of one billion, practises socialism. This main part is very large."

"It is under this prerequisite that we allow capitalism to remain in a small part of the country, since it may help develop our socialist economy."

Mr Deng's comments came from a speech made on October 22 to Communist Party elders in the party Central Advisory Commission, which he heads. It was reprinted in a book published yesterday of 22 recent speeches by Mr Deng.

The Communist Party paper, the *People's Daily*, said in a front-page leading article that industrial reform was the key issue of 1985.

Mr Deng revealed in one of the speeches published yesterday that he personally supervised a crime crackdown launched 18 months ago in which thousands of people were executed.

The total number of people sentenced to death has not been disclosed, but the London-based human rights group, Amnesty International, estimated at least 5,000 died in the first year and some Hong Kong-based lawyers have said they believe as many as 10,000 people had been executed.



Around the Horn: David Hempleman-Adams, a 27-year-old explorer from Bristol, showing the flag after becoming the first person to paddle a canoe round Cape Horn, at the southern tip of South America. He used a specially designed 17ft glass fibre kayak for the 200-mile voyage from Puerto Williams in Chile to Cape Horn island, where he arrived on December 21.

Bomb blast at home of Malta priest

Valletta (AP) - A bomb went off outside the home of a Roman Catholic priest in the Valletta suburb of Floriana on Monday night, shattering the door and damaging part of the balcony.

No one was injured in the blast, which came less than an hour after Malta's new Prime Minister, Dr Carmelo Mifsud

Bonnici, offered a "fair reward" for information leading to the arrest of those responsible for the series of bombings.

It was the twentieth bombing incident since September 25 and the second directed against the Floriana priest, Father Salvino Fenech.

Dr Mifsud Bonnici said the Government would seek to

restore good relations with Italy, strained over trade and financial issues, and to reach agreements with the European Community and the Vatican.

His administration planned to make every effort to reach a "permanent, long-term agreement" with the Vatican on all matters affecting state and church.

Prisoner hijacks US jet to Cuba

Washington (Reuters) - A man believed to be a murder suspect hijacked a US airliner to Cuba after overpowering his three guards, the Federal Aviation Administration said.

The man, of unknown nationality, surrendered to Cuban authorities after the American Airlines DC10 landed in Havana.

The State Department said all 184 remaining passengers and 13 crew were safe. The plane was seized on a flight from the US Virgin Islands to New York.

The hijacker was believed to be a prisoner being taken to New York to stand trial for murder.

A US official had earlier said in Washington that up to four men, all of them prisoners being escorted by armed guards, may have been involved.

New York subway 'hero' gives himself up

New York (Reuters) - An electrical engineer, described as quiet and friendly, has surrendered to police for a crime which thousands of New Yorkers considered a Christmas present: the shooting of four threatening youths on a city subway train.

Mr Bernard Hugo Goetz, aged 37, gave himself up on Monday in Concord, New Hampshire, where he had fled.

On December 22 a man fitting Mr Goetz's description was confronted on the subway by four black youths, according to witnesses, and when they demanded money he pulled out a silver-plated pistol and shot them.

Three are expected to recover and one is believed to be paralysed for life.

Police set up a special telephone number to get information on the gunman, but were inundated with thousands of calls from New Yorkers who praised the shooting.

But in one call, information was given about Mr Goetz, by someone who said that the self-employed electrical engineer had a gun and had suffered at the hands of muggers. Police began to investigate him and believe he was tipped off about their questioning by a friend.

A senior detective said Mr Goetz was quiet and got on well with the people who lived in his Greenwich Village apartment block, from where he also ran his business.

New year messages

Reagan renews his pledge to Berlin

President Reagan told the people of West Berlin yesterday that Washington's commitment to the city would remain unshakable (Reuters reports).

Berlin was a place and a people close to the American heart, he said in a message for the *Berliner Morgenpost* newspaper. The Western allies were Berlin's trustees. "They are in Berlin as sentinels and as reminders that the tragic division of Germany and Europe is not immutable."

The White House released a text of the message in Palm Springs, where the President is spending the holiday period.

● MOSCOW: The leadership of the Soviet Union called on the people to increase production, accelerate scientific and technical progress and take care to seek rational exploitation of the country's natural resources (AFP reports).

Attributing international tensions to "aggressive imperialist circles", the Kremlin promised to work with the socialist bloc countries to "improve the political climate of the Earth and save humanity from nuclear holocaust".

● SANTIAGO: President Pinochet of Chile said irresponsible opponents had abused his offer of greater political tolerance in 1984, unleashing a wave of violence which had forced him to crack down again (Reuters reports).

The general said the vast majority of Chileans had wanted the government to restore order and supported a

state of siege imposed two months ago, which sharply curtailed civil liberties.

● MANAGUA: President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua announced he would take "urgent steps" after his inauguration on January 10, including transferring income from tradesmen to workers (AFP reports).

Leaders of the Sadrist-controlled unions have been complaining that speculation and corruption by the country's plethora of small merchants have made food too expensive for workers.

● KHARTOUM: President Gaafar Nimeiry of Sudan called on southern rebels to lay down their weapons and join a national dialogue to resolve the conflict (AFP reports).

He linked the guerrillas of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army with Libya and said their relationship would lead the rebels only to "disaster and destruction".

● CONAKRY: Guinea has banned private exploitation of diamonds, President Lansana Conte said in his address (Reuters reports).

● NDIAMENA: President Hissene Habré of Chad said the recovery of northern Chad from Libya would remain the chief goal in 1985. He denounced Libya's failure to abide by an accord to pull its troops out of Chad as France had done (Reuters reports).

Zimbabwe enforces party code

From Jan Raath Harare

Investigations have begun to uncover the entrepreneurs within the leadership of Zimbabwe's ruling party, which stands on the principles of Marxist-Leninism.

Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, said in a television interview that members of the ZANU(PF) Central Committee had been given forms on which to declare their business assets.

It is the first move to implement the party's leadership code, which was adopted at its congress in August.

The code prohibits officials from receiving more than 50 acres of land, dealing in property, being a company director and engaging in other forms of business activity.

Mr Mugabe said on Sunday night that some party officials, whom he did not name, had even acquired land since the last congress.

"We are not going to be soft on this one. We are either socialist or not," he said.

Tutu wants dialogue with whites

From Alfred Sayila Lusaka

Bishop Desmond Tutu has defended his stand against the use of violence to overthrow the apartheid regime in South Africa. In a radio and television interview here, he said he believed there was still a chance to resolve the South African issue amicably, but only if the white administration realized the importance of a dialogue for change with the black majority.

The bishop warned the international community that there was bound to be a bloodbath in South Africa in a few years time, if the whites continued to pay no attention to the plight of the blacks. He said the treaties South Africa was making with some neighbouring African states would not help much if meaningful dialogue was not entered into with the indigenous people.

Talking of his Nobel Peace prize the bishop said it was not an individual achievement but was a recognition of the entire Council of Churches in South Africa opposed to racial discrimination.

The work-to-rule has brought various essential services at the University Teaching Hospital to a halt.

Work-to-rule by doctors hits Zambian hospitals

From Our Correspondent, Lusaka

Medical services at the main hospitals in Zambia have almost come to a standstill after a week's work-to-rule by more than 100 junior doctors at the University Teaching Hospital in Lusaka, and those in Ndola and Kitwe on the Copperbelt are demanding better pay and accommodation, and other improvements in conditions.

They say their action was precipitated by remarks by Mr Mark Tambatamba, the Minister of Health, referring to them as ordinary civil servants who deserved no preferential treatment.

The work-to-rule has brought various essential services at the University Teaching Hospital to a halt.

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Gandhi puts emphasis on efficiency and honesty in Cabinet choice

From Michael Hamlyn
Delhi

The newly victorious Prime Minister of India, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has unanimously been elected leader of the Congress (I) parliamentary party, which yesterday won its 400th seat in the lower house, and promptly sworn in again as Prime Minister. In his acceptance speech he promised a clean political life, and efficiency and honesty in administration.

Then he named and had sworn in his new ministers, among whom there was a plain evident emphasis on financial integrity and technological efficiency.

Pre-eminent among examples of the latter are the Law Minister, Mr Ashoke Sen, a prominent jurist who returned to the post he held under Mr Gandhi's grandfather, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, and Mr K. C. Pant, a technologist with an MSc degree and two years of study in West Germany, who becomes Education Minister.

Mr Bansi Lal, though much distrusted by liberals because of his association with Mrs Gandhi's Emergency administrator, has a good deal of knowledge of his charge at the Railway Ministry. As chairman of the parliamentary estimates committee he made suggestions for changes in running the industry.

The emphasis on financial integrity shows through the

7,000 in Bhopal relief protest

Bhopal (Reuters) - More than 7,000 victims of the gas leak at the Union Carbide plant here blocked traffic for six hours yesterday to protest against delays in welfare payments from the authorities. The leak killed 2,500 people and injured 25,000. Official aid to victims was suspended last week pending an inquiry into who was eligible for it, but a city official told demonstrators that payments would resume tomorrow as the investigation had been completed.

appointments of such as Mr Abdul Gaffoor as Minister of Works and Housing. Once Chief Minister of Bihar, which may be the most corrupt state in the union, he alone of its chief ministers has managed to preserve an absolutely clean image.

The new Finance Minister, Mr V. P. Singh, has a similar reputation, though as a member of a rich landed aristocratic family it has no doubt been easier for him.

The previous Finance Minister, Mr Prabhakar Mukherjee, finds himself in the cold. His name has been linked with several prominent industrialists, and he is also said to have fallen out with the new Prime Minister.

According to reports in political circles, Mr Mukherjee, flying back to Delhi with Mr Gandhi from West Bengal on the day of the assassination, told him that he (Mukherjee) should be Prime Minister, as the senior man in the cabinet, even if only for an interim period, as after the deaths of

Pandit Nehru and Lal Bahadur Shastri. Mr Gandhi immediately marked him down as too ambitious.

Also dismissed with Mr Mukherjee is the man with whom he has had many public fallings-out, Mr A. B. A. Ghani Khan Chowdhury. Each heads rival factions of the West Bengal Congress Party, to which their feuding has done considerable harm.

Mr Ghani Khan also had a series of public quarrels with his junior at the Railways Ministry, Mr Jaffar Sharief, who also loses his job.

It seems likely that the ministerial team will be further expanded. There are 37 men and three women in the team, but the Prime Minister has reserved to himself a large number of portfolios, including those relating to science, technology, atomic energy and space.

● **PALM SPRINGS:** President Reagan has sent a message to Mr Gandhi, expressing optimism that the United States and India would continue to work closely together (Reuters reports). He called the election victory impressive and extended his "warm congratulations".

● **DELHI:** The Indian Government yesterday announced the passing of Mr Brahma Chellaney, Delhi correspondent of the US news agency, Associated Press, who is accused of "objectionable reporting" and sedition, according to the Press Trust of India (APF reports).

Mr Chellaney faces charges for his coverage of developments in Punjab in June. The Supreme Court has granted him anticipatory bail on condition that he cooperates with police in Amritsar in the investigation.

Germans turn on to satellite television

From Michael Biayon
Bonn

With the first television broadcast from the private satellite SAT 1, West Germany yesterday ushered in a new and controversial development in broadcasting. It comes a year after the start of cable television and a few weeks after the failure of all parties to draw up a new broadcasting charter.

The operating company estimates that about 250,000 viewers initially will be able to receive the programme, which is transmitted by cable from a satellite receiver. By the end of the year it is hoping for a million viewers.

The Satellite Broadcasting Company is a consortium of 10 programme producers, drawn mainly from publishing, who will finance the output by advertising. Its headquarters are in Ludwigshafen, the industrial Rhine town where cable television began a pilot project a year ago.

Programmes will include three daily news broadcasts, prepared by a Hamburg television news agency, which will compete with the two main bulletins on the state-controlled networks.

Leading politicians yesterday welcomed the new station. Herr Bernhard Vogel, Christian Democrat premier of Rhineland-Palatinate, called it a great step forward for business, technology and viewers, and said it would ensure greater freedom of opinion. Herr Klaus von Dohnanyi, Social Democrat Mayor of Hamburg, hoped it would lead to more entertainment and information.

The satellite consortium is seen as an important attempt to preempt the threat of competition by international satellite companies relying largely on American-made films and shows. More than 80 per cent of programmes from some participating companies will be produced in Germany.

The satellite programme, which opened yesterday to the strains of Dvorak and Verdi, will broadcast 12 hours a day from 1pm.

For more than a year the governments of Germany's federal states have been arguing over a new charter to regulate broadcasting. The Social Democrats have been at odds with the Christian Democrats, however, and despite arduous attempts to find a compromise to suit all the Länder, a draft treaty was rejected last month by Hesse, which is governed by the SPD.



Royal challenge: Princess Caroline of Monaco and her husband, Signor Stefanos Casiraghi, before leaving Versailles yesterday on the first leg of the Paris-Dakar rally.

Fishing ban raises spectre of starvation for Tamils

From Trevor Fishlock, Jaffna

The Sri Lankan Government's ban on fishing in the mainly Tamil north of the island, as part of its war against Tamil separatists, is causing great hardship and threatening thousands of people with starvation, church and fishing community leaders say.

The Roman Catholic Church is trying to feed fishing villages in the north. Fishing has been prohibited for a month. The Government says it needs a no man's land around the coast from Mannar in the west to Mullaitivu in the east, to prevent an invasion from India.

The ban is hurting the fishing communities which catch about two-fifths of Sri Lanka's fish and get about seven-tenths of their protein from fish. The Vicar-General of Jaffna said it was difficult to apply for Government relief because of the complex bureaucracy and problems of transport permits and fuel.

In greater Jaffna alone, he said, 3,000 families are not getting enough to eat. "I have been watching them deteriorate. Another month of this and you will see a disaster."

With a lawyer who picked a route to avoid the dreaded Army patrols I drove to the fishing village of Myliddy, 12 miles from Jaffna. It has 1,550 fishing families and is usually relatively prosperous. Today many people are destitute and many have sold jewellery, the family treasure, to buy food.

The parish priest said the Church was buying second grade rice to give families one or two meals a day. The Government has not issued a ferry permit and supplies are

being brought in by a driver taking a chance. One fisherman, Aruma Salama, who has four children, said his wife had sold everything for food, but the family was going hungry on its diet of bread and rice. "It is just a question of survival," he said. "And it is not just the fishermen who are hit by the ban, but all the other people who depend on the fishing industry."

Another man told me he was scrounging enough fuel for his outboard engine to make his escape to India that night in his 17ft open boat. He would take his wife and four children, including a baby of four months.

"It is 32 miles and the sea is rough. There are also the Navy patrol boats. But it is worth the risk. Four others have got out by boat from here. It is a matter of escaping starvation as well as fear. We cannot sleep easily at night, and in the day the troops stop their Jeeps and point guns at us."

The priest said: "The soldiers terrorize. They steal jewellery from women and go into houses to harass people. Children cannot get to school easily because of the transport problem, and in any case, parents do not like them to go out."

On the main street I saw a woman selling a fish. Someone had taken a risk in catching it with a hook and line in the prohibited area. The fish was cut up into small pieces and was selling for six rupees for a two-ounce lump, about four times the normal price. A fisherman said: "There aren't many people left here who can afford it. And as you can tell, it is old and stinking."

Three days ago the citizens' committee of the village of Mathagal sent a letter to the bishops of Sri Lanka saying that "under the guise of fighting the so-called terrorism, the Government has unleashed punishment and cruel and inhuman torture on the Tamil people."

It went on: "In an army search of December 11, 37 youths were reported missing from a section of our village. Three were shot to death when they tried to hide, two have not been traced, seven are in Army camps, 10 have been sent to Boosa Camp (a notorious interrogation and holding centre), and 15 have been released."

A human rights group in Sri Lanka is collecting a mass of evidence of Army brutality. I have seen some of the files. In one affidavit, a student aged 19 says he was picked up by soldiers in Jaffna in May, taken to an Army camp and beaten with weighted plastic pipes on his body and head. Then, he says, a python was brought and its head thrust into his mouth while its body tried to coil around him.

I met a woman called Agnes who was trying to trace her son, aged 20. He was seized by soldiers in Jaffna on December 14 while in the company of a teacher. She had been to an Army camp to look for him, but the soldiers said her son was not there. Now she was in a lawyer's office, seeking help.

The lawyer had her sworn statement and put it into a folder. He pointed to a cupboard. "On these shelves alone I have 500 files, all dealing with missing boys," he said.

Politician shot dead in Basque country

Madrid. - Basque terrorists killed a local politician and businessman on New Year's Eve as he was celebrating with friends in a bar in Azcoitia, near San Sebastian. His killers escaped (Richard Wigg writes).

Jose Larrañaga Arenas, aged 58, who received four bullets in the face, had been head of Franco's National Movement for Guipuzcoa province. He had already suffered injuries in two previous attempts on his life.

Ex-wife must be repaid

San Francisco (Reuters) - A woman who worked to help pay for her husband to attend medical school won a court battle here in her claim for compensation from him after the breakup of their marriage.

The Supreme Court of California ruled in favour of Janet Sullivan, who has claimed she should be repaid for contributing towards the education of her then husband, Mark. A lower court will decide the amount.

'Times' honour

Paris (Reuters) - France honoured Mr Charles Hargrove, former Paris correspondent of The Times, on the day the newspaper celebrated its bicentenary. Mr Hargrove, aged 62, was promoted from "chevalier" to officer of the Legion of Honour.

Peru attack

Ayacucho, Peru (AP) - Maoist Shining Path guerrillas burst into the small Andean town of Huayhuas firing submachine guns and pistols and killing 12 people in the latest attack on government-organized peasant patrols.

Oldest gorilla

Philadelphia (AFP) - Massa, said to be the oldest gorilla in captivity, died at the zoo here a few hours after his 54th birthday. His last meal was a giant ice cream with bananas, grapes and apples, topped with whipped cream.

Detainees free

Bangui (AFP) - The military Government of Central African Republic said it was freeing 53 political detainees in a new year amnesty. They include leaders of banned political parties, placed under house arrest or in camps.

Family surprise

Avignon (AFP) - An 82-year-old American grandmother gave her family and 100 American guests a surprise at a New Year's Eve party here by jumping out of an eight-tier cream cake.

Clinic bombed

Washington (AP) - A bomb exploded in an abortion clinic in Washington, causing the roof to collapse and extensive damage. Nobody was hurt.

Shenouda back

Cairo (Reuters) - President Mubarak ordered the release of Pope Shenouda III, aged 62 (above), the spiritual leader of Egypt's estimated six million Copts, who was stripped of his temporal powers and banished to a desert monastery by the late President Sadat. He resumed his duties yesterday.

Lower speeds

Geneva (AP) - Switzerland reduced the speed limit outside cities from 62 mph to 50 mph and ordered drivers on super highways not to exceed 75 mph. New road taxes also took effect yesterday.

Film ban defied

Geneva - The erotic film *Emmanuelle* appeared after all on some Swiss TV screens after yesterday's ban. A pirate station, Zuri Welte, put it out "to strike a blow at the moralists".

Entertainments

also on page 23

THEATRES

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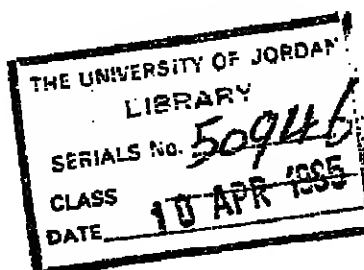
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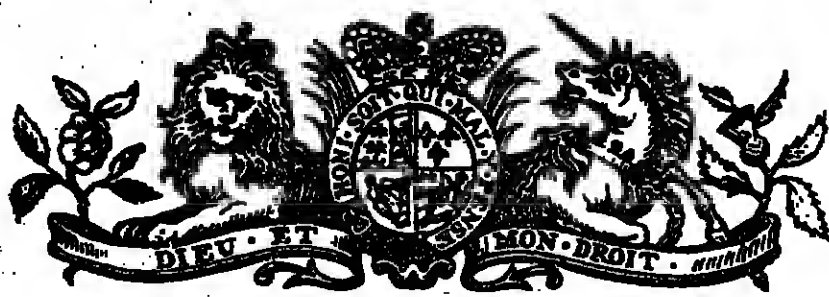


THE TIMES - On the occasion of 'The Times' two hundredth birthday, Thames Television is proud to present a sixty minute documentary 'The Greatest Paper In The World!' tonight at nine o'clock. All are invited to view.

Yesterday marked the two hundredth birthday of 'The Times', the most famous newspaper in the world. Tonight at nine, Thames Television presents a fascinating documentary chronicling the illustrious but chequered history of 'The Thunderer'.

The programme follows 'The Times' fortunes from its early beginnings in 1785 to its role in the

Fleet Street of the 1980s, including extensive archive film, comment from top correspondents, politicians, editorial staff and academics - plus an exclusive interview with its present owner, the controversial Rupert Murdoch. An incisive and entertaining insight into the background of a newspaper that many still regard as an impregnable British institution.



Thames Television's film

The Greatest Paper In The World!

Tonight at 9 on ITV



SPECTRUM

Throwaway lines saved for posterity

THE TIMES

1785-1985

A television team spent six months filming the history of The Times for tonight's programme. However, 30 hours of film ended up on the cutting room floor.

Literary Editor Philip Howard rescued the best of the surplus interviews

As the paper of record, *The Times* is the nearest thing that we have, on this side of the heavenly News Desk, to the Record of the World. As such, it records its own history in its Archives and Intelligence Department, in its secret book recording who wrote which leader and in its biographical files on *Times* men and *Times* women.

For the past six months outside eyes have been examining the secrets of *The Times* for the Thames Television programme that will be shown tonight at 9 pm. Producer Robert Fleming, presenter Tony Lee and their team of artists, researchers and technicians have impressed even laid-back *Times* hacks by the pains they have taken to get things right. They have also impressed us by the exorbitant wastefulness of television. Their crews have been around the building, the United Kingdom, and the world filming *The Times* at work. More than 30 hours of oral history of *The Times* have ended up on the cutting-room floor.

The material stretches back more than 60 years to what it was like to work for Northcliffe and why *The Times* tried to appease Hitler. It is a waste to let such history, off-recorded elsewhere, vanish off the face of the earth. So here, rescued from oblivion, are some of the cuts that you will not see in the film tonight. The self-effacing questioner is Robert Fleming.

The Arts Editor
WILLIAM A. JOHN LAWRENCE
Curriculum Temporum: Born 1901. Joined *Times* City Office 1919; News Room and reporter 1923; war service 1939; resumed 1945 covering entertainment news with Home sub-editing; in charge of the Arts 1950.

Lawrence: Northcliffe had a sense of humour, but it was an odd one. It's like most people so far removed from everyday life. When they try to become normal they don't get it right. I remember him asking his secretary to bring him a book of reference. When the young man brought it, Northcliffe said: "Down on your knees, man. Is that the way to hand a book to a Noble Lord?"

Question: Northcliffe eventually went insane, didn't he?
Lawrence: Yes, one sign of it was that he became convinced that the paper was full of nepotism. So he ordered that anybody who had a relation in *The Times* had to be sacked. He kept on sending messages that so-and-so was to be sacked. The management tried to protect these new arrivals, but they were held back anyway: their seams were poisoned.

Northcliffe was personally a generous man; very generous. Yet this was a time when *The Times* was immensely parsimonious. We never talked

about money. It was not considered gentlemanly. If you were hungry, well, go hungry. You work for *The Times*; that's more important than food.

There was this chap, who had worked for *The Times* for some time, and he broke the rule. He said to one of his colleagues: "Does one get paid for working here?" The colleague said: "By God, haven't you had anything yet?" "No." "Well, you had better go and see the Manager." So he went to see the Manager, Manager, full of understanding: "Of course, dear boy. How long have you been here? Some months? Well, you go down and get something from the cashier."

Years later this *Times* man had become a tetchy old man, still grotesquely underpaid. So he plucked up courage to go to see the Manager for a rise. Manager's name was Lint Smith. Lint Smith began his usual routine: "We'd love to give you more money. You deserve it, and you're top of the list. The moment we come out of the red, you shall have some more money." Fiery old boy burst out: "Forgive me sir, I thought I was speaking to Mr Lint Smith. It is clear I made a mistake, you must be Mr Skinfint Smith. Good day to you sir."

Question: Were there women on the staff?
Lawrence: When I joined, there were just two women. They were quite terrified. One old leader writer was convinced that the women were bringing in these new-fangled machines called typewriters. So he complained to the Manager: "I refuse to work here any longer. The noise of typewriters, impossible to think. Come in and listen." So the Manager went into his very solid room in Printing House Square, and said: "I can't hear a thing." "By God," said the leader writer, "put your ear to the wall, and you will."

Question: What was the atmosphere like in old Printing House Square?
Lawrence: Very much like a gentlemen's club. We never bothered about what the other papers said. One of the sub-editors was translating Homer into Chinese. Several young chaps, including Graham Greene, were writing novels. It was a good staff. We could have produced a better paper without the Editor. It's a bit like the Civil Service: we have a better Government if only the civil servants were allowed to run it.

Question: What about the Arts Pages in the old days?
Lawrence: A. B. Walkley was the great drama critic. Wrote very quickly, very elegantly: man of the world. Came back one night to his room to write his notice of the play he had seen. You could run up to 2 in those days. But this night he was running late, so the Chief Sub-Editor sent a messenger to ask whether Mr Walkley would



Past editors of *The Times* (from left): Thomas Barnes, John Thaddeus Delane, Thomas Chenerly, G. E. Buckle, Henry Wickham Steed, Geoffrey Dawson, Robert Barrington-Ward, William Casey, Sir William Rees-Mogg, Harold Evans

mind parting with his copy a sheet at a time. He agreed, and sent it down sheet by sheet. On the last sheet he wrote that he could not do justice to the play, because fire had broken out, and the last act had never been given.

On the following day Editor Geoffrey Dawson wrote him an old-fashioned *Times* letter: "Dear Mr Walkley, It would have been of the greatest convenience to *The Times* if, on your coming into the office from the play last night, you had taken the trouble to mention that the theatre was on fire." Walkley wrote back at once: "Dear Mr Editor, You mistake my employment. I am your drama critic, not your news hawk."

The Foreign Correspondent
LOUIS PHILIP HEREN
Curriculum Temporum: Born 1919; joined *Times* as messenger boy; Foreign Correspondent and War Correspondent 1947; American Editor 1960; Foreign and Deputy Editor 1970; Associate Editor 1981.

Here: It was a very paternalistic organization. Astor regarded us much as he regarded his tenants. It was very much a Top People's Paper, and the Editor was God. When I started as a messenger, my job was to stand outside the front door every morning at 11. When I saw the Editor's Rolls turn round the corner, I had to signal to the commissionaire, who would bring down the lift, and have the door open, and salute. Another boy would be waiting in the lift to take the Editor up. Question: What sort of people worked on the paper in those days?

Here: Strictly divided between gentlemen and players. The gentlemen were the editors and leader writers. The players were the reporters. The reporters' room was far too small. There were no individual desks. Just long benches, like millers' benches, made by the *Times* carpenter. Not enough typewriters to go round. Not enough telephones. It was feudal, but amiable. For the Hever Castle, during the summer, six special trains were laid on from Victoria Station.

Former Editor
WILLIAM REES-MOGG
Curriculum Temporum: Born 1928; joined *Times* as Editor 1967-81.

Rees-Mogg: John Thaddeus Delane was the man who really created *The Times* in its great Victorian institutional form. He was a very serious journalist; more effective than Barnes. He created the idea of *The Times* as a great national institution, with authority, with responsibility, with accuracy. He wrote very little himself. But he read every word before it appeared in the paper. Almost everybody who was anybody in British politics wrote for *The Times* at one time or another during his editorship. And he also had superb professional correspondents like Russell and Blowitz.

He did not always get things right. *The Times* was wrong at the beginning of the Crimean War, and it was wrong throughout the American Civil War. But its power was enormous. With the diversity of the modern media it is inconceivable that any editor of *The Times* should ever have that power again. It is as though you

were to combine the influence of the editors of half Fleet Street with Robin Day and Alastair Burnet, and allow them total freedom of opinion and judgement. It was an extraordinary position of power.

Question: Why is *The Times* attacked about Appeasement?
Rees-Mogg: *The Times* was in favour of the attempt by negotiation to satisfy the demands of the dictators, particularly Hitler, and to try to get peace in that way. The policy was influenced very strongly by Robin Barrington-Ward, who had fought in the trenches in the First World War and had a horror of ever exposing young Englishmen to those sort of conditions again; and by Dawson, who was convinced that Britain should stay close to the Commonwealth and keep out of European wars. The British people wanted Appeasement in the Thirties.

I think that the correct view to take of Appeasement is that it was a mistaken policy, which was pursued by honourable men for highly honourable reasons.

Former Editor
HAROLD MATTHEW EVANS
Curriculum Temporum: Born 1928; joined *Times* as Editor 1981-2.

Thomas Barnes was indisputably the finest English Editor we have ever had. He is the Editor I tried to model myself on. He was a cheerful, robust man. In fact, so robust that some of the Diehard Tories, the present right wing of the Conservative Party, let it be known that they had gangs of ruffians waiting to beat him over the head as he walked over

Blackfriars Bridge at night for his supper. So Barnes used to carry a big cudgel, which he said was to beat Tories with.

He was a great character. Bohemian, lived with his devoted mistress. Once for a bet he swam from the Apollo-cenics Garden in Chelsea to Westminster Bridge. A great bull of a man, he was John Bull in many ways; and a brilliant writer too. He said that it is no good giving an Englishman, little drams of information; you have got to fire ten-pounders into his brain before he begins to understand what the row is about. He was a very anonymous, fascinating, rumbustious, genius.

When I went into *The Times*, I thought of Thomas Barnes first. *The Times* is often thought of as a very conservative paper of the status quo, run by greybeards, the Black Friars. Barnes was the opposite of all that. He was a radical. He was not a solemn man, but he was a serious man, because he seriously questioned power.

That seemed to me to be the role that *The Times* should be playing today when I took over. I did not think that it should automatically be a Conservative Party newspaper. I thought it should return to the Barnes tradition of being a questioning paper, a reporting paper, and a radical paper asking for change. And I thought it should not confuse solemnity and seriousness. It should be serious about what is going on in the country.

I give you a small example. We had an exclusive report that the Government had suppressed the news that children were being poisoned by the lead

in petrol. Some of my colleagues thought that this was not really a story that *The Times* should be bothering about. But I had this image of Barnes scribbling in his room about the abuse of children in factories; and I was not averse to campaigning in *The Times*. To judge from some of the letters I got while I was Editor, this was considered outrageous. *The Times* should support the Government of the day, they said, and not cause ripples. Of course Barnes would have taken his great stick to that idea.

The Defence Correspondent
ALUN ARTHUR GWYNNE JONES, BARON CHALFOUNT
Curriculum Temporum: Born 1919; joined *Times* as Defence Correspondent 1961-4.

William Haley was one of the great Editors. I think he did a number of things for *The Times*. The first was to insist upon certain standards of journalistic excellence, not least in the use of language. He was very fierce about solemnity. And he was, of course, a man who had a very, very strong moral centre - to everything, he believed. He was the last of the great thundering *Times* Editors: the sort of man to whom Prime Ministers pay great attention. Question: What was it like working for *The Times*? Chalfount: Well, the pay, of course, was negligible. Even coming from the Army, as I did, and what I thought was a state approximating to destitution, I had to take a cut in income to become Defence Correspondent of *The Times*. But it didn't really matter. *The Times* in those days was the exciting concept of a national institution

that had an effect on government policies, and on the political thinking of the country. To join *The Times* was an enormous excitement and a great privilege.

On my first day at Printing House Square, I met a man in full court dress. He was Dermot Morrah, who was then the Court Correspondent. And that morning he had been to a Court function, and come straight into the office in his court dress to write his piece. But for a moment I thought that this was the way that all *Times* correspondents were expected to dress for work.

I once went with a crowd of defence and military correspondents from other newspapers to some military manoeuvres. I found that the organizers had laid on a special car for the Defence Correspondent of *The Times*; and a special boat to take him to the embarkation point. The other journalists were expected to go off in their buses and barges to the manoeuvres. The gentleman from *The Times* was supposed to observe them in separate and lonely state.

I have to tell you that I declined this special treatment. Largely, this was because a gentleman called Chapman Pincher from the *Daily Express* was present, and I think he would have done me physical harm if I had accepted.

There was a time when *The Times* would be placed on the breakfast table of the Prime Minister; and it would affect the way that the Prime Minister thought and acted during the day. Now I do not think that any newspaper has that impact.

Seven ways to make a turkey trot

moreover... Miles Kingdon

Hundreds of years ago the first colonists arrived in America and found a bird running round going gobble gobble gobble. Shortly thereafter the colonists were going gobble gobble and even more shortly thereafter one of the great problems of the modern world was born: What do you do with leftover turkey?

In the case of the early Americans the answer was, quite simply, to leave it all behind and move on to

Play Scrabble with a difference
— it's the exciting new game

discover Oklahoma, but that isn't a practicable answer in a crowded island like Britain. So we in the Moreover Laboratories have been working over the Christmas period on a few new solutions to this age-old problem. Your worries are now over. Go and get that carcass and get to work!

1. Play Turkey Scrabble: This exciting new word game is played more or less like ordinary Scrabble, except using pieces of turkey instead of word tiles. Cut remaining turkey meat into cubes, and paint a letter on

each one, with edible dye. Now carry on using normal Scrabble rules, with this difference: after each turn you are allowed to eat one letter that you don't want! And at the end of the game everyone has to eat the letters they are left with.

2. Exercise time: Do you remember Indian clubs, those long thin things our ancestors used to swing round their heads to keep fit, in the days before they had invented Jane Fonda and aerobics? Well, that can be pretty hard work as you'll know if you've ever tried to swing Jane Fonda round your head. So why not give Indian clubs another go?

Simply take as many whole turkey legs as you can find and give them two coats of varnish. Then start swinging! If you're not sure how to do it, send up for our new booklet: "Mummy, why is Daddy waving turkey legs round his head?"

3. Wedding Accessories: It's fun throwing confetti at weddings, but have you ever stopped to think what murder it is for the vicar to clean the stuff afterwards? Did you know that the average length

of lead needed for a vacuum cleaner to stretch to the churchyard from that awkward plug by the altar is eighty-nine feet?

This year give the Rev a break. Use turkey meat instead. Simply mince the turkey up very small until you have bags of light, white crumbs and throw them over the lucky pair, confident in

DIY yuletide soup
kit for sending to relatives in New Zealand

the knowledge that it will all be licked up afterwards by grateful birds, dogs, foxes and badgers.

4. Going Sailing: Did you know that the turkey's bone structure is almost identical with the basic hull shape of the old Humberstone fishing yawl? Yes, interesting, isn't it? And what that means is that with the addition of a few masts and sails you can go out sailing model boats with a difference. You may have to caulk the seams, or tar and pitch it, or just sew up the rents made by

Grandpa's carving, but basically what you have is a facsimile of a genuine old East Coast vessel.

Don't worry if it sinks first time. That's what usually happened to the old Humberstone fishing yawl, too.

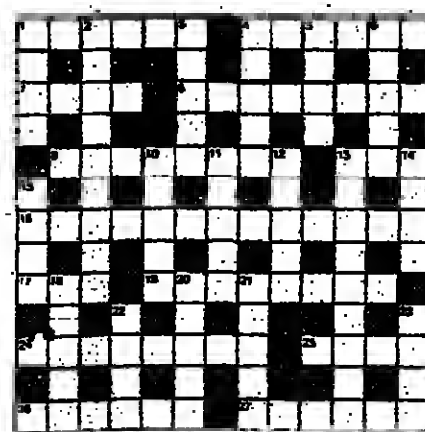
5. Overseas Food Parcel: If there is some relation in New Zealand you've forgotten this Christmas - and let's face it, there's bound to be - just send off your turkey carcass to them together with our leaflet: "Old-fashioned Turkey Soup Yule Do-It-Yourself Kit".

6. Gift Time: If you have some poor child in your family with a birthday in the first half of January, who normally just gets pillow slips from the January sales, I give them a turkey carcass this year. But this time slip on one of our handy printed labels: "Jonathan Miller's Pop-Up Guide to Bird's Anatomy".

7. Vanishing Trick: If all else fails, just put a sign outside your door saying: "Grand Turkey Clearance Sale - Everything Half Price". You'll be surprised how many people there are who had goose, trout or nut roast for a change this year and are absolutely longing for a taste of turkey.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 533)

- ACROSS
1 Sadness (6)
4 Amusing drama (6)
7 Panic (4)
8 Revolt (8)
9 Advance by jumping over (8)
13 Noah's vessel (3)
16 Fossils study (13)
17 Father (3)
19 Flappers decade (8)
24 Speed drink (13)
25 Repair (4)
26 Unscrupulous moneylender (6)
27 Snow hat (6)
DOWN
1 Little blow (4)
2 Journeyed (9)
3 Powdered tobacco (5)
4 Collector's item (5)
5 Pulpy mass (4)
6 Algerian money (5)
10 Fabric fold (5)
11 Solid fuel stove (5)
12 The mortar (5)
13 Reputation (9)
14 Knockout (4)
15 Moved quickly (4)
18 Deep gorge (5)
20 German composer, conductor (5)
21 Rich man (5)
22 Aspiration (4)
23 Jewish February, March (4)



- SOLUTION TO No 532
ACROSS: 1 Down 4 Reduced 5 Sloop 9 Mineral 10 Steering 11 Bell 13 Lese majesty 17 Luck 18 Thickset 21 Typical 22 Linn 23 Heretic 24 Siles
DOWN: 1 Desert 2 Whore 3 Repertoire 4 Roman 5 Catholic 6 Dumb 6 Correct 7 Dilate 12 Hercules 14 Escaper 15 Clutch 16 Sistas 19 Sissal 20 Scot

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A dandy time for girls

Cross-dressing swept into the Brave New World of 1984 on the tailored back and close-cropped head of pop singer

Annie Lennox. Boy George's make-up

completed the picture. But historian Aileen Ribeiro reveals that this fashion revolution is really nothing new

The sight of young male punks in coloured, teased hair, ear-rings, and skirts over tight trousers - the latest manifestation of the Englishman, in Nashe's phrase, as "the continually masquer of outlandish habiliments" - can be somewhat startling to the tourist.

Especially those used to the western European tradition since the Middle Ages of a clear differentiation in dress between the sexes.

Before that time, inherited from classical civilization, men and women dressed more or less alike, in long gowns and enveloping mantles. Only barbarian men were distinguished by their trousers, something no civilized Roman would have contemplated. To the modern eye, only the soldier or man of action would be obviously

'The East was thought to have inspired effeminacy in fashion'

masculine in dress. The satirist Juvenal pours scorn on would-be Amazonian women wearing male armour - helmet, arm-guards, thigh-pieces - for such things as fencing.

The Christian contribution towards the morality of dress was to inculcate a sense of shame at any attempts to wear the dress of the opposite sex. It is forbidden in the Bible (Deuteronomy XXII.5).

Although it seems to us that, until the mid-14th century, men and women continued to wear fairly similar long gowns, to contemporary chroniclers there were clear distinctions between what was acceptable for men and for women. At the end of the 11th century, we hear complaints of young men who "grow their hair long like girls, with locks well-combed, glancing about them and winking in ungodly fashion", and who "love to dress themselves in long over-tight skirts".

The East (often the whipping boy for supposedly over-luxurious and decadent styles) was thought to inspire effeminacy in dress, such as a lavish use of embroidery of tight-fitting gowns - English crusaders were forbidden to wear tightly laced tunics.

From the mid-14th century onwards, breeches and trousers began to be a distinguishing part of male dress; long-skirted



Now and then: the young beau of the 1780s wore much the same buttoned

garments remained for official and ceremonial dress.

The deeply rooted strain of theatricality in the English character (common indeed in northern Europe generally), found expression both in wearing female clothing on such anarchic and pagan occasions as the 'feast of Fools, New Year celebrations, carnival and masquerade; and in exaggerated quasi-feminine fashionable dress. There were the macarons to the 1770s with their tightly-fitting, brightly coloured suits and bouquets, and dandies some 50 years later with their padded and corseted torsos, and wide, flaring trousers.

The documented cases of men adopting female dress in tota, are fairly rare, as indeed are those of women wearing male dress. Individual elements

of masculine dress have, from at least the 16th century, been assimilated into the female wardrobe, without too much comment, the male doublet in the Elizabethan period, and the suit in the 18th century which women turned into a skirted riding habit.

Women, following their men to war, adopted for obvious practical reasons, male dress, even uniforms. When, however it came to the question of male trousers as a fashion, this was a harder objection to overcome, as the struggles of Mrs Bloomer in the mid-19th century showed.

It was the craze for sport at the end of the century, notably for cycling, when either a divided skirt or trousers began

to replace the cumbersome dress of the emancipated and progressive woman, which helped the cause. This was even more so during the First World War when women of all classes wore trousers in munitions

'Women pillaged the masculine wardrobe with freedom and style'

factories, or breeches to work in agriculture. When they proved that they could do a useful job, men were prepared to overlook their eccentricity in wearing masculine costume.

The fact that women

throughout history have occasionally worn male dress for practical purposes, may account for its acceptability. Even St. Thomas Aquinas agreed that women could in an emergency (defined as hiding from one's enemies, or lack of other clothes - wear male dress; what he disapproved of was wearing it for sensual pleasure.

Since there is no practical reason for men to wear female dress, this may account for the stigma still attached to this kind of dressing up, except when worn by outrageously theatrical pop stars.

After the interminable sobriety of the Victorian period, men may be about to return to a colourful, more "feminine" image. Women have been far

luckier in this respect. They have been far less bound by disciplines of job and status, and are able to pillage the masculine wardrobe with freedom and imagination.

We may never reach (or wish to reach) More's Utopian ideal of virtually unisex garments which only vary slightly according to sex and marital status. But we may be moving towards an equal case in what Virginia Woolf's Orlando calls "the probability of breeches" or "the seductiveness of petticoats".

Dr Ribeiro is head of the History of Dress Department at the Courtauld Institute of Art. She publishes *Dress in Eighteenth Century Europe 1715-1789*. (Batsford, £20) this week.



waistcoat and coat as today's woman in Michiko Koshino's dandified outfit

ALAN FRANKS' DIARY



Seasonal bleatings from an old Scrooge

Another New Year Bulletin from Boston, Massachusetts. As I mentioned recently my American relatives have advanced skills in the mail-a-blast business, and they flaunt them more than ever at this point of the calendar. A son can't go skiing, or a daughter disco-dancing, without the rest of the world (or at least that section of the world which has a surname in common) hearing about it.

For about eight years now, the parents have been reeling off these attainments-by-proxy with a peculiarly vile brand of mock modesty, and the activity is always stepped up around the start of the year. "We are delighted that Little Debbie, at the age of just 10, has become the first girl president of the U.S. and that her brother Walter will very soon be able to walk on water single-handed." I parody, but only just.

The terrible underbelly of all this is that when a family dedicated to over-achievement produces a dud (as it inevitably will), the poor child is written off, ignored and made stateless. The bulletin carries not a word, not a syllable, about poor Harvey, who I gather is a trainee junkie in New York. Selective reporting, if ever I say it.

The detritus of Christmas has grim symptoms. Most of the toys are already displaying their faults, as if to ram home the indiscriminate nature of parental shopping. Torches don't light, trains don't go, and whistles don't whistle.

Fathers, sundried from the safety of the office, are pretending to be practical. Since they cannot mend a fuse at this or any other time of the year, it is pathetic how they wax technocratic when the minor intricacies of play goes wrong. To be sure, the mothers must shoulder their share of blame, for their stock response is always: "Your father will mend it".

And so we have these tragic little tableaux, with tawdry hardware in shards, toddlers on the brink of terminal hysteria, mothers running out of palliatives, and fathers wishing they'd got to grips with the make-and-break circuit 20 years ago.

Whenever I say anything about this time of the year, I get accused of bad grace; I am at best a spoilsport and at worst a Scrooge for "not entering into the spirit of things." That is why I have withheld any value judgements until the whole thing is over - ie, now.

I am unrepentant. All right, the period forms a welcome snarl of solstice between work and work; it is a nice warm blanket around the spirit as the world swings down towards the nadir of its rotation; and I know - the ultimate defence this - that it is "for the children".

Let us have a look at that last claim. In so far as it winds them up for weeks into a state of anticipation which can only produce anticlimax; in so far as it legitimizes the grosser elements of acquisitiveness at a very early age; and in so far as the joy of receiving is instantly marred if a sibling gets something bigger - yes, it is indeed for the children. Well it has to be for someone, and it is certainly not for adults.

Since it has all sprawled into a commercial orgy with the duration of a whole season (two months ago it was already upstaging Guy Fawkes), the heart of the matter seems to beat ever more inaudibly beneath the new layers of fat. The sad thing is that this should have happened to a festival with such a truly dramatic core - the very stuff of mystery and morality. It was a great idea, and we've all but wrecked it.

People who find this attitude offensive accuse me of sabotaging the whole thing by even thinking such thoughts. (They will probably also point out that my timing is particularly unfortunate as there are only 357 shopping days to Christmas.) But the damage has already been done.

The second communication of the New Year. It carries a Beckenham postmark and is therefore from Great Aunt Sylvia: the standard six-monthly announcement of her next visit. She is not coming (she never has been), but this has not stopped her from coming in the past.

I know what will happen: she will spend the whole time comparing my children with long-dead scions of her own ancestry, and routing the futures of these young lives along the tramlines of family history. If I were my wife, I would be deeply offended by this genetic blinkering; it presupposes that in-laws only exist to reproduce in the image of another clan.

That is defensive behaviour I suppose, and one should be tolerant. But it is not always easy. My like-minded friends have long been telling me that extended families are built more for war than for harmony, but it takes the season just finished to bring out the truth of the observation.

Why breakfast is the crunch meal of the day

"There is a vast difference between the savage and a civilized man but it is never apparent to their wives until after breakfast." Silly and sexist perhaps, but American journalist Helen Row plainly subscribes to A. P. Herbert's view that "the critical period in matrimony is breakfast time".

Both remarks imply that breakfast sets the tone for the day ahead, and so it does. To those who are for practical purposes without bio-rhythms until after a second cup of coffee and to whom the convivial breakfast table is anathema, the quality of the coffee is critical. What matters is not how you like it but that it should be served as you do.

Even sweetness-and-light-at-dawn people can be pretty particular about the softness of their eggs, the thickness of toast, the crispiness of bacon, and the chunkiness of the marmalade. On breakfast, the meekness of men and the mildness of women have very strong views.

Queen Elizabeth II's preferred breakfast of beef and beer might make today's nutrition experts wince, but then they cannot be happy about many currently popular breakfast dishes either.

All those prefabricated cereals, stripped of bran and loaded with sugar, fat and salt. And the traditional British fry-up, now that is too fatty by half. Coffee is frowned on as too stimulating, or worse, whole milk is too fat, and marmalade is too sugary. What is left?

Obviously anything as nice as a warm croissant must be mortal sin itself, which is why, I suppose, I keep coming across recipes for wholemeal croissants. It is an idea which seems to me as daft and pointless as wholemeal Yorkshire puddings. Traditional croissants, rich in butter and profligate of toast,



Shona Crawford Poole

baker's time and skill, call for the finest flour if they are to take their place at the top table of his art.

Wholemeal for wholemeal's sake may give an illusion of healthier eating but it is chimeric. Salting the bran sack is not necessarily good for you.

Unless it is baked-in, added bran can be difficult to swallow. Much more appealing are breakfast cereals made from mixtures of rolled or crushed grains with fruit and nuts. Rolled oats are the basis of most muesli and granola recipes, but there are other grains to experiment with. Wheat and rye flakes, sold in whole food shops, are the easiest to find.

The choice then is between making a big batch of one recipe or varying the added fruits, nuts and seeds from day to day. Morning tempers and timetables will decide that.

Interesting muesli
Makes about 1.5kg (3½ lb)
500g (2lb) mixed rolled grains, wheat, oats and rye

450g (1lb) mixed dried fruit, raisins, dates, figs and apricots, coarsely chopped

225g (8oz) coarsely chopped nuts, hazelnuts, pecans, almonds or a mixture



Mix all the ingredients together and store the muesli in an airtight container. To serve, add freshly grated apple or berries, and moisten the cereal with cold milk or yoghurt. Sweeten it to taste with honey or soft brown sugar.

Baking gives granola a richer flavour than uncooked muesli, but because the cereal is toasted days or even weeks ahead, it is just as easy to serve.

Granola
Makes about 1.5kg (4½ lb)
680g (1½ lb) rolled oats
225g (8oz) wheatgerm
225g (8oz) sunflower seeds
225g (8oz) coarsely chopped nuts, hazelnuts, almonds, cashews or a mixture

2 teaspoons salt
150ml (¼ pint) real maple syrup or clear honey

150ml (¼ pint) sunflower oil
150ml (¼ pint) apple or orange juice

450g (1lb) mixed dried fruit, raisins, currants, apricots, dates, figs etc, chopped if needed
1 vanilla pod (optional)

Combine the oats, wheatgerm, sunflower seeds, nuts and salt in a large bowl and mix thoroughly. Combine the syrup or honey with the oil and fruit juice and mix. Pour the liquid over the cereal and mix well.

Spread the mixture on shallow baking trays and bake it in a preheated moderate oven (180°C/350°F, gas mark 4) for 30 or 40 minutes. Bake the granola until it is crisp and golden, turning it from time to time to prevent it sticking and to ensure that it colours evenly.

Allow the granola to cool, then mix in the dried fruit. Add the vanilla pod if you are using it and store the granola in an airtight container. To serve, add cold milk or yoghurt.

In tropical countries breakfast usually consists of fresh

fruit, rolls and coffee. This can be a lamentable disappointment on all three counts even in coffee-growing areas. Brazil is a dazzling exception. The fragrant slices of ripe papaya and mango which begin a day in Rio set a standard to judge those fruits by.

A ripe mango would be a pretty extravagant breakfast at the prices charged when they have been flown half-way round the world. But there are home-grown fruits which take on new colours when treated with extra care.

Forced spring rhubarb is in the shops already. Chop it into 3cm (generous 1in) lengths and sprinkle it with a little raw brown sugar. Bake it, uncovered, in a moderate oven (180°C/350°F, gas mark 4) for about 20 minutes, or until it is tender but not collapsing. Chill before serving it with creamy natural yoghurt and honey or more brown sugar.

Apples, peeled and quartered, and baked with a little cider or

white wine and sugar, are equally good served cold for breakfast. It sounds the height of decadence to add wine to anything meant for breakfast but the apples taste so appley cooked this way that scruples melt.

It is the great size of a traditional cooked breakfast that is too much for many people at that time of day, but like Pooh, they fancy "a little something" around 11 am, if not before. How about eggs baked not en cocotte but en brioche? Freshly made brioche freezes perfectly, so they are worth making in quantity. Alternatively, any round roll with a soft crust could be substituted.

Eggs baked in brioche
Serves four
4 individual brioches
30g (1oz) butter, melted
4 large fresh eggs
4 tablespoons double cream
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Cut the tops off the brioches and scoop out enough of the crumb to make room for an egg and a spoonful of cream. Brush the insides of the brioches with melted butter and set them back in their tins, or in an indented cake or muffin tin, which will hold them steady. Crack the eggs carefully into a cup before dropping them, one at a time, into the brioches. Top with a spoonful of cream and a little pepper and salt.

Bake the filled brioches in a preheated moderately hot oven (200°C/400°F, gas mark 6) for seven minutes, or until the whites have just set and the yolks are still a little runny. Heat the brioche tops for a minute or two before serving the eggs.

The Harvey Nichols Sale.

(Who says you can't buy style?)

You'll find huge reductions in all departments, with many items at half price, including Designer Collections, Separates and Knitwear, Shoes, Fashion Accessories, Leisurewear, Menswear, Childrenswear, Revillon Furs, Carpets and Beds, Furniture, China, Glass, Linens and Greens Electrical.

Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1.

Sale starts tomorrow 9.30-7.00.

THE TIMES DIARY

Sit vac sitcom

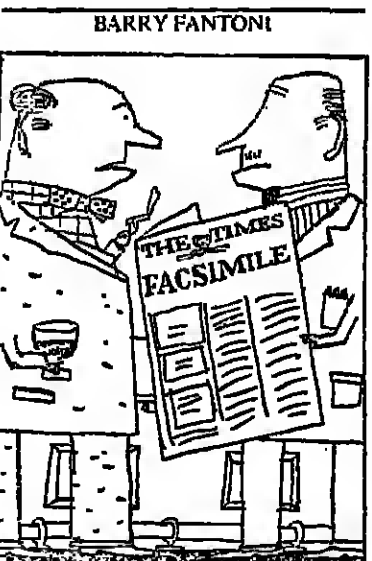
They are not exactly queuing up to become Labour's next general secretary. On New Year's Eve it emerged that the frontrunner, David Warburton, had refused nomination because he was "first and foremost a trade unionist". I now learn that Neil Kinnock has failed to persuade John Garrett, centre-left former MP for Norwich, to stand. Garrett, whose skills as a management consultant are sorely needed at Labour's chaotic Walworth Road headquarters, was asked to meet Kinnock in the Commons in the week before Christmas. The matter was discussed, Garrett went off to consider it, but then told his leader he would not be applying. "I've got other things to do", he said yesterday. Other possibilities are the General and Municipal's Larry Whitty; general secretary of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions Alex Perry; Welsh secretary George Wright; Labour's new technology adviser Alan Thomas; and Scottish regional organizer Helen Liddell. Mrs Liddell could prove the dark horse. Since a meeting at the party conference, she has, I'm told, enjoyed the support of impoverished Labour's wealthiest supporter - Robert Maxwell.

On file

As a jubilant George Best prepares for his transfer later this week to Ford open prison (it has a football team), our hearts need not bleed for his Pentonville prison-mate of the past few weeks, Taki. Inside intelligence reveals that the Greek millionaire cocaine smuggler is not sewing tummy beads but running the prison gym. With his track record, Taki is doubtless adding a touch of athletic class to the place. He represented Greece in the Davis Cup, and was the abject aged captain of the Greek karate team. Indeed life inside is far from dull; besides *The Times* and the *Daily Mail* every day, loyal friends are supplying him with scores of magazines, including, for hard currency only of course, *Penthouse*, *Maxfair* etc.

Candid

A friend just back from the five-star Romantic hotel in Klagenfurt, Austria, sends me the hotel questionaire in which guests are asked to "contribute to our efforts to meet your pretensions even better". Question 9B: "I find this hotel less pleasing because (a) the politeness is only put on, (b) you feel observed, (c) you are 'fleece'."



Timely scoop

The Cabinet papers released yesterday contain a timely reference to *The Times* with which to usher in our bicentenary. In a 1954 memo from Churchill's press secretary Fife Clark about a *Times* disclosure of the imminent abolition of the Ministry of Materials, Clark writes: "It is worth noting that this is one of the few 'scoops' obtained by *The Times* in recent years." He continues: "Certainly the only 'scoop' that they have had in the last two years has been the news of the appointment of Lord Llewellyn as Governor-General of the Central African Federation - said to have been disclosed when a member of the staff of *The Times* met in his club a man who had just been to see his tailor, who had just measured the Governor-General designate for his uniform." Times have indeed changed.

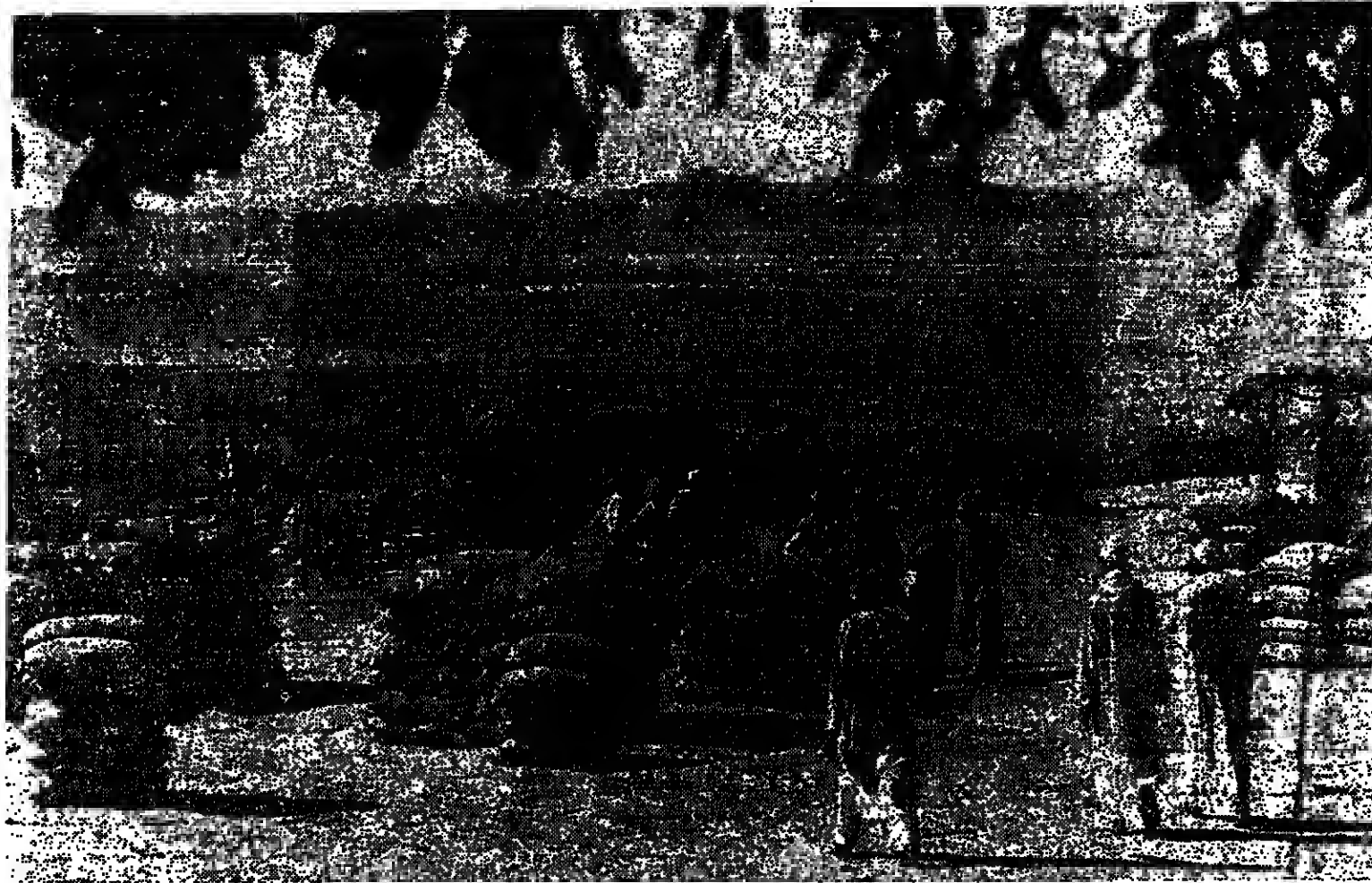
● Aussies flying to London by Qantas may think the Tory party has come to a sticky end at last; the ingredients to their portion of breakfast marmalade sounds "Sugar - Oranges - Conservatives".

Live wire

Yet another Dennis Skinner belletrist. To John Harris, the East Midlands Electricity Board chairman who is inviting MPs to a Commons "function" in March to outline the board's good works, the Beast of Bolsover replies: "It is a disgrace that all the Regional Electricity Boards squander money to wine and dine MPs when they should be utilizing the money for all the services which you have outlined in your letter. It is about time that these useless affairs were ended and the money used instead to stop the brutal disconnections which have become so common in Thatcher's Britain." Mr Skinner, I take it, will not be present.

PHS

Chad: Robert Fisk on the famine threat to a land wracked by war



The Chari as its waters fall it becomes increasingly an obstacle to continued relief supplies

Besieged by the ever advancing sand

Ndjamena - At dusk each day, the young officers of the French army's remaining 100-strong contingent in Ndjamena gather in the open bar of the Hotel Chadienne. Malarial mosquitoes hover over bottles of locally-made Gala beer, and usually four or five call girls of stunning beauty are available to President Mitterrand's last military commitment to President Habré's crumbling nation.

The hotel management keep a few candles on hand for the power cuts but the restaurant regularly runs out of fresh meat and butter, the souvenir hawkers have to carve their toy camels from shell fragments and the foetid swimming pool has not had its water changed in weeks.

The only sign of organized activity comes from a few hundred yards to the west where the sluggish, sinking green waters of the River Chari divide Chad from the Cameroons and presage a new human disaster, more destructive and more terrible than the civil war that has shredded the old French colonies of what was once Fort Lamy. On the other side of the river, lorries bring a thousand tons of grain and other foodstuffs every 24 hours to the old ferry boat across the Chari. Already, however, you can wade across most of the river. Very soon, the ferry will graze the emerging sandbanks too many times and beach itself. There is no bridge, and no causeway for the trucks on the other side. So the food will then simply stop coming into Ndjamena until March; until later, if the rains don't come.

Thousands of food sacks are already stockpiled on the eastern Chadian bank hard by the League of Red Cross workers' office, a shambaling building in which an Italian woman, a Frenchman of allegedly aristocratic descent, a Sussex University graduate and a girl from Jersey pore over telex messages, supply lists and field reports from Chad's hot, merciless interior. Everyone in Chad predicts disaster, pretty soon, and it is not difficult to see why. Near Abéché, far out on the border track to the

Sudao - almost 500 miles from Ndjamena - people are already starting to die of hunger, as the poor move into town from the burnt and dusty scrub.

In theory disaster can be averted. There is talk of building a road bridge over the Chari although it could scarcely be in time to prevent starvation. The EEC may fund an earth causeway - British companies may even tender for the project - but there is still nothing linking the two sides of the Chari except water, and mud and a lot of promises.

Hissel Habré's government advises the forthcoming famine - it knows it needs help well enough - but it is Chad's military and political partition that still fascinates its ministers. Everything north of a line from the tip of Lake Chad to the town of Biline is effectively in the hands of the Libyan army which President Mitterrand once innocently believed to have gone home.

Ndjamena itself is ruinously symbolic of both the nation and its desperation. Its streets are lined with buildings still gutted by the fratricidal and tribal war that broke out within the Chadian government more than four years ago. The cathedral is a skeleton next to a brand new military review stand. The food queues form up quietly each morning and evening not far from the Booby Night Club. The Bibliothèque Al Akhbar still supplies the latest editions of the Paris papers, for Ndjamena is still ineradicably French. Its currency, one of its only two European air routes, its language, its morality,

Chad is the second largest cotton

producer in Africa but it is difficult to see what the country has to offer to outside powers. The Libyans retreated up to the sixteenth parallel after a taste of occupation in Ndjamena. The Americans still speak of their desire for the restoration of the territorial and sovereign independence of Chad. Ask the Americans about Amnesty's report and they acknowledge its probable accuracy, adding, however, that under Libyan occupation in the north, the Chadians are fared far worse. For the moment President Reagan seems prepared to leave the French to hold the fort.

If the French fail, however - if President Mitterrand balks at a second Chadian "rescue" mission - then the last authority of Ndjamena will start to crumble away. Sudan may again feel itself threatened by Libya. Perhaps this is one reason why the Americans are increasing their interest and diplomatic personnel in Chad.

There are now about 35 American advisers attached to the small embassy here. Many of them are aid officials, but six weeks ago a military attaché arrived. In early December a giant US Starliner flew into Ndjamena; according to diplomats it carried out food but military spare parts.

All this means little to Chad's estimated four and a half million people, who now know that the famine is approaching from Sudan. From the moving sands to the north and a disappearing river to the west. The World Food Programme has produced an emergency plan that just might prevent catastrophe, a project that would bring food from America, France and the EEC through Nigerian ports to the railroad at Maiduguri and across the Chadian frontier near Ngumi. Another plan would freight food by rail, through the Cameroons for transit on the still non-existent causeway over the Chari.

For the present the river carries only short-term hope, and long-term despair. Like the River Styx, all eyes are on the ferryman.

reminded of our own such trip a few years ago.

Some letters proved greatly entertaining. Meo wrote of chance encounters with former inmates: "Sighted outside a newsagent in Bessborough Street. Menacing as ever, he declared that he wasn't going to work for a living."

Purge pursued other avenues of research to locate elusive meo. She wrote to their universities and to companies they were thought once to have worked for, and she scoured the London phone book. Several citizens must have been surprised to be rung and asked whether they were in the Navy in 1956, especially if they weren't.

Not many are in *Who's Who*, except the full professors and the head of a public body connected with the arts. The Diplomatic List, though, led us to high flyers in the Foreign Office.

We had 47 acceptances, including 16 wives and one of the Russian instructors. Four of the group were reported dead but we had found perhaps 80 per cent of the rest. A triumph of will.

We received phone calls from as far away as Belgium and Canada expressing regrets, and one on the night itself from Pune, from an ex-airman we hadn't asked but who had heard about it and wanted to come along. (Dismissing the unworthy suspicion that he was from M15, I said he could.)

It was a damp, muggy night. The first to arrive was the only one who had served full time in the Navy beyond his National Service. He appeared in uniform, all the way from Sunderland. He had been an immature lad at Crail but was now burly, bearded, garrulous, with a huge capacity for beer and a retentive memory for saucy Russian lyrics.

He was one of those I would never have recognized. Others scarcely looked a day older. The only other in naval regalia was the Oxford don, as effervescent off screen as on. Two had made the journey from Paris and many more from north of Watford.

It is odd what things stay in the memory. One guest, now a corporate executive, accused me painedly of ungenerously behaviour 28 years ago. He had deputised for me on a night watch yet I refused to do the same for him. I had forgotten the incident but I'm fairly sure there were mitigating circumstances.

It was, against the odds, a tremendous success.

Digby Anderson

Fellow travellers who never arrive

Will 1985 be the year of public recantations?

Only rarely do Marxists and socialists publicly renounce their faith. Thus when the Chinese leadership recently recognized that the sacred texts of Marx, Engels and Lenin were not sufficient to deliver the economic goods, it was oews. Their criticisms were restrained, and concerned mainly the extent to which Marxism works. They were especially newsworthy because they were made publicly and by a party in power. It is presumably much easier for an individual Marxist in the West to recognize publicly the failure of his creed. Or is it?

Why do so many British intellectuals continue to find Marxist socialism attractive when it has so manifestly failed as a theory and in practice? Those among them who admit the fact, if not the extent, of the failure in private, are noticeably reluctant to do so publicly. Why are they so unable to cut the ties and put this tired and cruel ideology for once and all out of their lives?

The usual explanations are numerous and well-known: Marxism is a religion. Its adherents are unlikely to lose their millennial faith because of its practical or intellectual shortcomings. Even better, it is a religion divided into sects so that these shortcomings can be blamed on other heretical groups and factions. Marxism offers a refuge for the resentful and certainly for the privileged and provides a platform for the indulgent exercise of second-hand rhetorical compassion.

To the less intellectual intellectual it gives an armoury of argumentative manoeuvres which enable him to retain his conclusions and composure in the face of any new and threatening criticism with minimal intellectual effort. It is also noted that there are jobs, advancement and status in socialism.

Finally, dependent on its payroll are not only the employees of the Labour, Communist and several other political parties, trade union bureaucrats and activists, but the state-salaried new class which does so well from ideologically sustained public bureaucracy, not of course the interest groups which enjoy special privileges from the enlarged socialist state, including, as shown so graphically in the recent student grants debate, many among the middle classes.

Among other less obvious beneficiaries of socialism are those private sector companies which have lucrative contracts with central or local government and those trade newspapers which receive substantial revenue from advertising public sector jobs. There are many reasons

for remaining a socialist long after socialism has been intellectually and practically discredited.

One reason has not received much attention. Some years ago, when carrying out research in a secondary school, I interviewed 15-year-olds about what they had done and where they had been over a 24-hour period. The first respondent answered my initial question, "Where did you go after school?" with a very definite: "I want to be a welder, Sir". That was because the careers officer was carrying out interviews in the next room and the interview lists had been muddled. No doubt the careers officer received detailed instruction in the local bus timetable.

The general finding, however, was that when the young people were not hanging about their life was one long prepositional outing: they went "round to Dave's" and then "over to Neil's" so that the three of them could go "down the cafe" and wait until it was time to go "up the disco" in order to meet some girls whom they would take "out to the pub" and so on. A truly successful evening had no end in itself but laid the foundations for the next day's prepositional chaos with an arrangement to meet Sharoo, Jean and Michelle and "go over...". Evenings were rated not so much on their end or result but on the velocity of the ricochet, the number of prepositional.

Is not this one attraction of socialism? Not its end but its endless means. The ceaseless organizing, theorizing, squabbling, struggling, denouncing and demonstrating the infinite discovery of new critiques, complaints, heroes, minorities, causes, injustices, and the proclamation, abandonment and reproclamation of seminal analyses, approaches and exegeses.

The fact that the end is unattainable is unimportant. It is the means which are attractive - revving round and round on a highly-pitched ideological Hoola. Many socialists have never thought about the end, about whether they want a socialist society. It is unlikely to happen, they don't bother.

And there you have it. The fact that socialism does not work is not a disadvantage but an essential part of its attraction. The means not only justify but replace the end. What better than to be able to organize, denounce and study for an end in the sure and certain hope that it will not happen.

So 1985 is unlikely to see a wave of recantations. Lenin called leaving socialism an infantile disorder. He was wrong: it is permanently adolescent.

The author is director of the Social Affairs Unit.

Jeremy Seabrook

When the Tories call on terror

In recent weeks we have heard the media refer to "the troubles" in the Yorkshire pit villages. Leona Britton has called picketing "strikers" the men of violence. We have heard of divided communities and fratricidal strife. Ministers have even made conscious attempts to equate some coalfield disturbances with terrorism.

We may wonder whether these associations and elisions are merely accidental, a simple reaching for effect, symptomatic of nothing more than a tiredness in politics and journalistic rhetoric, that it should fall back on sinister euphemisms that have become familiar from the cruelties of Northern Ireland; or whether the aggravation of social conflict under this government does not give some substance to an apparently irresponsible use of hyperbole.

At first sight, any parallel between the coal dispute and Northern Ireland looks far-fetched, even absurd. But the question to ask is whether the long-term and institutionalized oppression of the Catholic minority in Northern Ireland which gave rise to the present "troubles" does foreshadow a direct, if secular, equivalent in mainland Britain. Clearly, racial discrimination presents an immediate and obvious analogy. But in their over-ready use of this borrowed imagery of sectarian strife to describe the pit strike, this is not primarily what the Government and its allies are thinking of.

Their business, as they see it, is with the permanent election from the mainstream of politics of the socialist alternative. (The fact that many black people have come to identify themselves with the left means that two birds can be killed as it were, with one apparently non-racially discriminating stone.) The Conservatives' aim has been to see the Labour Party shrink and be reduced to the margins; so that it represents only the rump of the old industrial communities in their continuing decline, the inner city and ghetto areas.

Their wish is to see the "proletarian" core isolated and dwindling numerically into electoral impotence. Following the structural changes in the economy, the relatively easy eclipse of Labourism in southern England, it becomes a by no means implausible project to represent socialism as both ridiculous and meaningless to a majority of the people. Labour's diminished base can be effectively isolated in the kraals of the decaying industrial empire, the pit villages and declining industrial communities.

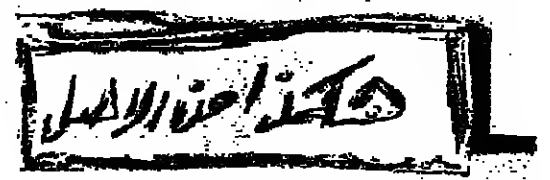
When Mrs Thatcher referred to the last Labour government in a conference speech a few years ago, she added emphatically "and to mean the last Labour government", and she was using more than a mere figure of speech. She has foreseen the consolidation of a permanent

majority who do not contest capitalism, which has been magically transformed into something more benign, called "society". This prospect has been enhanced by the arrival of the SDP/Liberal Alliance, who despite their message of reconciliation, have reinforced the beleaguered sense of rage and hopelessness of that shrinking socialist constituency which once saw itself as an irresistible force in politics, and one to which the future securely belonged.

The minority can scarcely be expected to lie down under the humiliations imposed by a newly confident majority. The peculiar bigotry of the rich and comfortable comes from their incomprehension of the fervours of people who draw meaning and hope from socialism. They see socialism to be generous or merciful, the more so because until quite recently they saw themselves as the threatened minority. For it is they who have, "democratically" vanquished the forces of evil; who have, in Mrs Thatcher's word, "prevailed".

In this, she is likely to be disappointed. It is true that the electoral roots of Labour have partially withered. The time may come - or even be here - when it commands no more than a third or a quarter of the electorate. But it remains, and will remain, a sizeable and dangerous fragment, likely to become more obstinate and entrenched the more it feels beleaguered and overwhelmed. This process has been much intensified by what we have seen in the pit villages: there, the activities of the police appear, not so much as the maintenance of order as the excesses of an occupying force. And while we may well come to resemble the US in that our poor become largely depoliticized and dependent, and can therefore be safely left to prey upon each other rather than conceive systematic designs on the property of the rich, it is unlikely that workers in traditional industries will be so compliant as to demobilize themselves politically, or to permit the visions of socialism to perish.

This is why what we have seen in the mining areas may be only a beginning. When they speak of "the damage done to the social fabric", this is what the Tory conciliators are trying to warn against, even though their dainty allusions, scarcely measure up to the horrors they are trying to indicate. The melancholy truth is that there is no one in this government with the presence, imagination, or even, it sometimes seems, the human sympathy to see beyond an immediate and arrogant triumphalism. When they incorporate in their rhetoric the language of bitter sectarian conflict, they should really reflect more carefully upon the nature of the strife they are promoting.



THE NEXT TWO HUNDRED

Paris, Jan. 1st 1785. "The introduction of the English newspapers is just prohibited here. For some time past for want of political matter, newspapers were filled with nothing but absurd and ridiculous stories and satirical pictures of the principal, and even most august personages of Europe." Annual Register for 1785.

In pre-revolutionary France *The Times* was unwelcome to the authorities. But the revolution which was soon to overwhelm them gave *The Times* a first great opportunity to establish itself as the leading source of information about a saga whose ultimate effect changed the face of Europe, indeed of the world. Such opportunities have recurred in the last 200 years, some to be exploited, others to be missed. We celebrate our 200th birthday today as Britain's oldest national newspaper with special satisfaction because, though there have been many occasions in the past when the existence of *The Times* has been in jeopardy, there can hardly have been so many such serious threats to this paper as we have experienced in the last 20 years. To a natural statistical satisfaction in the figure 200, therefore, must be added an emotional sigh of relief that *The Times* has actually made it after all. And made it well.

Age is not necessarily a virtue. What matters today is tomorrow's issue. Nothing better illustrates the ephemerality of the newspaper business than a limp and irrelevant pile of back numbers waiting on railway platforms or in the backyards of newsgirls to be returned to pulp. But at *The Times* we believe this newspaper to be more than the digest of yesterday's news. Of course, each edition of the paper contains the narrative record of yesterday's events. Additionally there is all

Times is a continuous struggle to make the paper commercially successful, a struggle during which our fortunes have waxed and waned dramatically, as one would expect over such a timespan. The ingredients for success, as always, have been a combination of new printing techniques acquired before our competitors did so and a journalistic reputation which would never have survived if it had been based simply on a view that *The Times* was the main organ of opinion. There has always been more to *The Times* than that.

The power of this paper's leading articles has rested on more than the power of the argument. In its 19th century heyday *The Times* had unique access to the high places of government which enabled it always to be first with information about what was going on. This meant that the paper's opinion had often been formed on the basis of equal if not earlier intelligence than many members of the government to whom the paper was offering advice. That access was secured both by the efforts of the senior staff, and because the paper's circulation exceeded the combined circulation of the rest of the national press.

This power of *The Times* in the early 19th century had been achieved by its victory in the struggle with political authorities to establish the revolutionary idea that a newspaper was independent of party, that it took no subsidies, received no bribes and responded with defiance to blackmail.

The Times led the Press and certainly spoke for it as a leader. After a brush with Palmerston over criticisms that its disclosures were ill-timed or against the public interest *The Times* answered:

"The first duty of the Press is to obtain the earliest and most correct intelligence of the events of the time, and instantly, by disclosing them, to make them the common property of the nation."

There emerged a view that newspapers were more continuously and more sensitively in touch with the will of the electorate than was any 19th century government, certainly before the electoral and educational reforms. To the extent that any public opinion was expressed in Britain outside Parliament and the confines of a political establishment, that was true. But the idea was tenacious, and persisted even after the Age of Broadcasting, that public opinion could be measured by the range and direction of journalistic opinion. Behind such an idea lies the assumption that a newspaper can form public opinion, or even change it, in its leading articles.

We do not subscribe to such a grandiose view of the power of the leading article. Leading articles in the Press as a whole certainly help to outline the area within which can be set the limits of the national argument. It is newspapers, not the broadcasting organizations, which perform this role. One can see what difficulties radio and television companies have experienced in being unable to have a house view on an issue against which they can accommodate a range of opposing views. The absence of a house view, explicitly stated, gives the broadcasting output some feeling of political disorientation which is often not helped by the efforts of individual members of the staff explicitly or implicitly assuming editorial discretion for themselves.

Everybody in a newspaper knows that it is news, not opinions, which sells newspapers. For all that, the leading article in *The Times* is a vital part of the composition of the whole paper. They - the leading articles - should be part of that process of setting events into some kind of context. They should establish in the reader's mind where the paper stands officially on the great issues of the day. It has been said of *The Times* that we claim to be national, independent and complete. We do. We are committed to no political party, in or out of power, we believe to be acting in the national interest. We are complete because we do not try to distort or suppress news or views which we may regret or deplore.

A paper is a living thing, a vital organism which has certain qualities of the human personality about it. The same could not be said for the small screen which now sits in the living room of every citizen, giving a service of news, entertainment and other peoples' opinion without any coherent or definitive personality shaping its output. The hurrying pace of information technology may suggest to many people that

newspapers will be replaced in a generation or two by electronic devices which convey information to their clients in a much brisker and more efficient way than a flimsy awkward ink-stained clutch of pages which slithers each day through the letter-box. We think that newspapers will survive the onslaught of the electronic age by using the new technology to improve our newspaper, as a newspaper. *The Times* should thus look forward with confidence to a celebration of another centenary in 2085.

Meanwhile, the editorial quality of the paper will be wasted if the commercial environment does not live up to this promise. *The Times* has had its successful and unsuccessful periods over the past two hundred years, as with many other British institutions of the same age. Unlike most of those other institutions we started as a commercial operation and we remain as such. We know that the world does not owe us a living. We have had a raucous past, robust, turbulent, rich and poor, full of grace and empty of it, but all aspects of it have depended on the commercial success of the operation started by John Walter to demonstrate the qualities of a new printing process. That was followed later by the first steam press, the first rotary press, faster means of communication and now electronic computer-based technology in our composing room; we are the only major national paper in Britain to have entered this new world.

When Lord Northcliffe died, that curious man left *The Times* in a state of shock, half-way through a revolution. It is not certain whether, had he lived, the revolution could or would have been completed. But his death caused *The Times* to acquire the status of a "national institution" worthy of a rescue operation. We are still a "national institution" because one could see how diminished was the whole British press by the absence of *The Times* when it was off the streets for fifty weeks. Nevertheless there is no escaping the conclusion that, though the national press was indeed diminished, the country could and would have survived without it. It had at last become clear to everybody that neither the world nor the nation owed us a living.

Consequently we have had to re-assess those fundamental qualities of independence, innovation and energy which originally launched us on this 200 year-old journey and which seemed somewhat eclipsed in the shock of Northcliffe's death in 1922. It led to the cultivation of the idea, both within and without the paper, that some body like Colonel Astor would always turn up to finance operations in a way which would have embalmied *The Times* so as to protect it from whatever disagreeable environment in which it found itself. Before the war such an idea was tenable; after it never.

Comes the revolution

It has taken forty years for everybody finally to face up to this awkward truth, but we have done so. *The Times* is not yet paying its way though *Times* Newspapers as a whole is now trading at a profit. Nevertheless this newspaper is potentially at one of those moments in its history when it could break free from some of the commercial and technical restraints which had beset it. *The Times* may now achieve a solidly based expansion on a scale which has not happened to it for nearly seventy years. It is an exciting prospect in which we hope to carry our readers with us on a new and fulfilling journey into our third century.

We carry our past with us, and proudly. It inspires us with its record of robust and vigorous challenges to authority, its resilience in the face of adversity, its confidence that information fuels argument, and that together they provide the raw material of freedom for British citizens and British institutions. As we now move beyond the industrial revolution and the post-industrial revolution, it is appropriate that *The Times*, which saw the first two revolutions come and go, should be geared up to report history in the making and at the same time be making history itself. A leading article printed when *The Times* first put news on the front page ended as follows:

"Some people have expressed the dark suspicion that one of the reasons *The Times* is modernising itself is to get more readers. Of course it is. And we shall go on trying to get more readers for as long as we believe in our purpose."

Come, tomorrow is another day.

Soviet reaction to SDI programme

From Mr Gerald Frost

Sir, Lord Kennet asserts (feature, December 19), as if it were a self-evident truth, that the introduction of an SDI (strategic defence initiative) system would upset deterrence without putting anything in its place. This may be very far from the truth: deterrence is likely to be strengthened if Soviet military planners know that a significant proportion of their missiles will be destroyed in flight, but not which ones.

They will also be obliged to take account of the likelihood that, because the protection of America's own strategic arsenal would have a high priority, the prospect of a massive US response to a Soviet first strike would be much greater than in the absence of ballistic missile defence. Lord Kennet also errs in overlooking the considerable political and diplomatic importance of the SDI programme as a factor in the conduct of East-West relations and wholly ignores the argument in favour of the SDI programme which is most likely to recommend itself to Europeans: that, if feasible, ballistic missile defence would lead a greater credibility to the US nuclear guarantee to this Continent because the scale of the risks to America established by that guarantee would be significantly diminished.

His assertion that the pursuit of an effective missile defence system is incompatible with the goal of arms limitation is only an assertion and appears to rest on the dubious assumption that if we displace the Soviets they will not wish to negotiate with us. Recent experience suggests that military strength and potential provide a much greater incentive to the Soviets to negotiate than sentiment.

In any event, it may well be that by reducing the relative utility of the ballistic missile a layered defence system would have the effect of increasing the readiness of each side to accept reductions in nuclear strength in return for corresponding and verifiable reductions by the other.

These are complex matters and none of this can be asserted with the degree of dogmatism which characterised Lord Kennet's remarks, at least not until the SDI programme reveals more about the technological capacity and limitations of the systems envisaged. Those who, like Lord Kennet, grandly seek to advise great nations on "their duty to humanity" cannot be excused the intellectual effort and patience involved in working out how that duty should be most intelligently and responsibly performed.

Yours faithfully,
GERALD FROST,
Executive Director,
Institute of European Defence & Strategic Studies,
13-14 Golden Square, W1,
December 20.

Polytechnic troubles

From Professor P. G. Forrester

Sir, In reporting (December 20) Dr Beishon's temporary appointment as Director of the Polytechnic of North London, you mention that, under his direction, the Polytechnic of the South Bank has introduced new rules. Apparently it is now an offence "to express opinions knowing that they are likely to cause such grave offence to others as to distract them from their studies."

Such a measure is all very well so far as it goes, but at PNL it will surely not be enough. The principle will need to be extended to outlaw not only unpopular statements but also unpopular ideas.

To monitor this adequately a thought police must be recruited, empowered, with the help of volunteer student activists, to carry out "thought searches" on any students or staff suspected of harbouring unconventional and potentially damaging ideas. These would be encouraged to undergo rehabilitation by methods worked out by our comrades overseas.

Only by such vigorous and responsible measures can PNL be assured of maintaining its role as a bastion of left-wing orthodoxy. Yours faithfully,
P. G. FORRESTER,
Strawberry Hole Cottage,
Ewhurst Lane,
Northam,
Newbury,
East Sussex,
December 22.

The Gillick case

From Mr John Eekelaar

Sir, At least two distinct issues are entangled in the *Gillick* judgement (Law Report, December 21). One is the simple question whether parents have a "right" to determine the medical advice and treatment given to their child. The other is whether treatment given without that consent is unlawful at civil or criminal law.

Lord Justice Parker answered the first affirmatively on the ground that the custodial rights relating to the person of the child include the right "completely to control the child". This seems far too broad and would mean that providing cosmetics, hair styling or even sports goods (such as boxing gloves) of which parents disapproved would infringe those rights.

It would be more acceptable to say that the provision of medical advice and treatment had been equated with the determination of religion and education, which are clearly recognised parental rights.

But even if this were so, the result is not far reaching. Apart from statutory provision, a parent who

Backlog on repair of housing stock

From Mr John Perry

Sir, In 1981 the Government carried out a major survey of the state of the nation's housing stock. The results were disturbing. Nearly a quarter of the stock was in disrepair. Over one million houses were unfit for human habitation. Many of the occupants of bad housing were found to be poor owners who could not afford repair costs.

Nearly one-third of our housing was built before the first world war and half of it needed more than £2,500 of repairs. If anything, the survey underestimated the scale of the problem in newer housing where widespread structural faults associated with prefabricated building systems are increasingly evident. The backlog of repair work is now estimated at £30 billion.

Presumably the purpose of surveys of this kind is to influence policy. Local authorities had already switched their housing resources overwhelmingly to repair work. For a time - a very short time - they appeared to be belated encouragement from Whitehall. Even the Prime Minister exhorted authorities to "spend, spend, spend". Their protests that it was the Government's own rules that inhibited spending programmes were dismissed as excuses.

Now of course, it is as if the *English House Condition Survey* had never been published, as if Michael Heseltine (as Environment Minister) had never promised "to reverse the decline in the rate of attack on substandard housing". The Treasury dogma which sought out housing as the soft underbelly of public

expenditure has returned with a vengeance.

Not content with cuts that have reduced spending by two-thirds since 1979, the Government is now introducing rule changes that restrict authorities from reinvesting money which they were encouraged to obtain by selling council houses (report, December 19). Many authorities will have so little money that they will be unable to enter any new contracts at all next year. Housing investment in 1985 will plummet to a new low. It is already less than half that of any of our EEC partners.

Surely the Government cannot believe that its brief pre-election spending spree was sufficient to make inroads into the backlog of repair work? Of course not. The plain fact is that the Government no longer cares whether poor owners, occupiers get grants, council tenants are in disintegrating tower blocks or 400,000 building workers are unemployed.

Everything is sacrificed before the Treasury's cash limit. Everything, of course, except mortgage tax relief, which soars ahead of new investment, unconstrained by Treasury rules. It is tax relief which now gets the Prime Minister's personal endorsement.

The insanity of the Government's houses policy will be demonstrated by the 1986 house condition survey. Unless, of course, it becomes another convenient victim of the cuts.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN PERRY, Chairman,
Housing Working Party,
The Royal Town Planning Institute,
26 Portland Place, W1.

Prescription of drugs

From Dr Philip R. Evans

Sir, Your leader on prescribing (December 13) fails to understand the genuine professional concern of many general practitioners about the Government's plans for implementation of a limited drug list. A considerable number of doctors are sympathetic to the idea of a limited list and some who have worked abroad, e.g. in Australia and New Zealand, know that it can work.

I suggest the present dispute between the Government and the medical profession should be used constructively in the following ways:

1. Following adequate consultation, a limited drug list should be set up and monitored by a committee made up of experts in pharmacology, therapeutics and pharmacy, with full representation of practising doctors, both hospital and community based.

2. The DHSS must ensure that no drug is available for dispensing in this country unless it has passed a rigorous quality-control procedure.

This would encourage generic prescribing and allay fears that

substandard drugs might be received by patients.

It has been demonstrated (*Prescribing - A Suitable Case for Treatment* - RCGP, Jan. 1984) that if general practitioners are given full and accurate information about their prescribing, their attitudes and habits in this area can alter to the benefit of the patient and the Exchequer.

It is naive to suppose that cheap prescribing is necessarily good prescribing. The technology to provide such information for individual doctors is available. The profession should ask for this facility; the DHSS should provide it.

Some of the anger about the Government's action is due to the lack of consultation, a rather sad failing of this Administration in a number of different areas. The present period of consultation until the end of January is clearly inadequate.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP R. EVANS,
West Mill,
Horringer Road,
Bury St Edmunds,
Suffolk.

'Restructured' rugby

From Mr M. D. Morgan

Sir, I write as the father of a boy at an HMC (Headmasters' Conference) school which should be continuing its tradition of producing players capable of playing international rugby, but unfortunately both it (and the vast majority of the schools against which it plays) play the game poorly and for one unequivocal reason - the coaching, from the age of 13, is virtually non-existent.

Whether this is so because the modern public-school master is simply not an all-rounder, as were so many of his predecessors, I don't know, but the lack of interest in the coaching of boys during their early

vital, impressionable years is an incontrovertible fact.

It follows, therefore, that if boys are not coached in the basics of the game and if their natural youthful ambitions are not properly encouraged they are unlikely, when they finally make the first XV, to be capable of much more than a honest effort (which they certainly make) but the absence of skill really is very depressing.

I have seen many schools matches over the last few years and my opinion is based on what I have actually seen.

Yours faithfully,
M. D. MORGAN,
16 Cleaver Square, SE11,
December 18.

New town assets

From Mr Alex Thompson

Sir, I respond to the recent series of articles by Christopher Warman on new towns (December 17-20), and, in particular, his discussion of the role of the Commission for New Towns.

To use the word "democratisation" to describe this body's stripping activities next year must surely make the ancient Greeks turn in their graves. What we will see is an auction, at rock-bottom prices, of publicly owned utilities as whole chunks of new town city centres and industrial plant are sold to private pension and assurance funds or multinational corporations, whose allegiance to the British people is akin to the vampire's relationship with its victim.

If we are serious about "democratisation" then perhaps we should follow the model of the Greek city states and let the local communities

have their say. Or is that taking democracy a bit too far?

Yours faithfully,
ALEX THOMPSON,
(Organising officer for new towns staff),
National and Local Government Officers Association,
1 Mabledon Place, WC1,
December 20.

Over the edge?

From Mr J. Horder

Sir, Is the change in the inscription on the edge of the one pound coin, from "Honour and protection" (*decus et tutamen*) to "No one who provokes me gets away with it" (*nemo me impune lacessit*) intended to indicate the direction of a change in governmental policy for the new year?

Yours faithfully,
JEREMY HORDER,
Kemble College,
Oxford.

claims that his rights regarding religion or education are infringed can enforce them only by warding the child, whereupon, although at one time the court would have implemented the right, it is now bound to do what is in the child's best interests. Thus even those powerful rights are diminished.

If the "medical" right is treated in the same way, a doctor considering medical advice or treatment would normally need to consult a child's parents, but would be entitled to disregard their wishes if he thought that was best for the child. But he would need a strong reason not to inform the parents. This would leave the situation much as it was before the judgement.

Lord Justice Parker also said that as a matter of law a girl under 16 could give no valid consent "to anything in the area of consideration which apart from consent would constitute an assault whether civil or criminal" and even suggested that physical examination of a child without parental consent might amount to indecent assault. This does not necessarily follow from the recognition of a "medical" parental right.

Touching a child in the course of

religious or educational practice with which a parent disagreed is unlikely to amount to assault if the child consented not (apart from specific offences) could consensual touchings of a child held against a parent's right of possession conceivably constitute assaults on the child.

Nor does criminal law help. If the consent of a girl under 16 to sexual intercourse was a "polly" the act would constitute rape. Such intercourse is a crime despite consent.

The significance of parental consent is that it supplies the deficiency of a child who is unable to give real consent. If it were required with respect to a capable child, social dealings with children would be impossible.

It may be that the judgement applies only to the subject matter of the declaration eventually given, confining the parental right to matters of sexuality. But do the courts really wish to become involved in supervising on behalf of parents, the sexual behaviour of teenage girls, and boys?

Yours sincerely,
JOHN EKEELAR,
Pembroke College,
Oxford,
December 21.

JANUARY 2 1800

During the Napoleonic Wars the price of corn rose considerably. The Government attempted to alleviate the consequent distress of the poor with "every expedient."

Among the various expedients which experience has shown to be best adopted to afford substantial relief, none seems to deserve so much attention as Soup Establishments. These excellent institutions, which have existed in the Metropolis for more than two years, have incontestably proved how much can be attained to economising the food of man, by the necessary preparation of meat and vegetables upon a large scale, in all instances where a design of this nature is properly methodized, and conducted with attention and regularity.

The unparalleled success of these useful establishments, thus clearly manifested by attaching the lower classes of the people to a cheap, substantial, and wholesome food is none of the least of the advantages which have resulted from this frugal and beneficial mode of relieving the Poor. The numerous applications of the labouring Poor, particularly at Spitalfields, has not only occasioned an increase of boilers of very large dimensions at most of the old establishments, but has also excited a general disposition among the benevolent and humane to erect new Soup Houses in every part of the Metropolis, and also in the villages in the neighbourhood, and it is not doubted who the whole of the new institutions are sufficiently prepared to issue soup, that above 40,000 meals or pints will be delivered daily to the Poor at half price.

For relief so salutary and extensive, and offered (in proportion to the number of persons who will be thus fed) at so very inconsiderable an expense cannot be too highly acclaimed, since it is evident that through this medium of relief are at length discovered of effectually assisting the Poor in severe seasons when the necessities of life are high, in a manner by which the benevolence of the Opulent and Humane embraces a wider field and extends infinitely beyond what the most sanguine mind could have conceived to be possible: since a single guinea subscribed actually affords a hearty meal to 804 persons and that too of food, which from its nourishing quality, strength and thickness, cannot be considered as an improper substitute for bread, the consumption of which must unquestionably be diminished wherever this aliment forms a part of the food of a labouring man's family.

The advantages resulting from the Soup Houses in the Metropolis being thus explained, it may be necessary to state that their success is alone to be attributed to the unwearied generous attention of their Conductors, who in systematizing these designs and extending their benefits in a manner not only to feed, but also to improve the habits, and in some degree, the morals, of so great a portion of the labouring people, have felt themselves amply rewarded and gratified by the thankfulness universally expressed for the boon.

Good companions

From Mr A. M. H. King and Mr M. A. Sutton

Sir, As two West Country firms of solicitors who were also founded in 1785 we offer you congratulations on your bicentenary.

Though your history is no doubt better documented than ours, we can each claim 200 years of legal practice and, at different stages in our histories, about 150 years' service from one family: in one firm, five generations of Kings and in the other, four of Tozer. The involvement of John Walter 1 and his descendants in *The Times* was of the same order.

To *The Times* and to each other we say, *ad multos annos*.

A. M. H. KING,
Stone, King & Wardle,
13 Queer Square, Bath, Avon.
M. A. SUTTON,
Tözers,
3/4 Orchard Gardens,
Teignmouth, Devon.
January 1.

From the Publisher of Helsingin Sanomat and others

Sir, Please accept our sincerest congratulations on the 200th anniversary of *The Times*, which has always been the pilot flame of free and serious journalism. Yours etc.

AATOS ERKKO, Publisher,
HEIKKI TIKKANEN, Editor,
TEO MERTANEN, Vice-President,
Helsingin Sanomat,
Ludviginkatu 6, 00130,
Helsinki 13, Finland.

From Mr Philip Hamilton Fox and others

Sir, G. C. Fox and Co. ship agents in Falmouth, wish to extend their heartfelt congratulations to the management and staff of *The Times* for helping that great paper achieve its 200th birthday.

The partners of Fox and Co. who moved the centre of their activities from Fowey to Falmouth in 1762, still have Foxes at the helm after nine generations. One of their most prized possessions is an early edition of *The Times* recording the retirement speech of George Washington as President of the United States of America, by whom Robert Ware Fox was appointed Consul in 1794.

We, the present partners, are also strong supporters of your excellent paper and our fervent wish is that there will still be Foxes reading it in another 200 years time.

Good luck to you all and may *The Times* go on living forever.

Yours sincerely,
PHILIP HAMILTON FOX,
CHARLES LLOYD FOX,
WILLIAM BARCLAY FOX,
PETER BOND,
G. C. Fox and Co.,
48 Arwenack Street,
Falmouth, Cornwall.

From Mr John Frost

Sir, The late General Dwight Eisenhower is reputed to have commented "A man's world is just as big as the newspaper he reads".

May I thank *The Times* for truly widening my horizon.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN FROST,
8 Monks Avenue,
New Barnet, Hertfordshire.

THE SIXTH NIGHT.
By His Majesty's Company
AT THE THEATRE ROYAL IN DRURY LANE, this present SATURDAY, will be performed
A New COMEDY, called
THE NATURAL SON.
The Characters by Mr. King, Mr. Parsons, Mr. Bentley, Mr. Moody, Mr. Baddely, Mr. Wrighton, and Mr. Palmer. Miss Pope, Miss Tidwell, and Miss Farren.
With new Scenes and Dresses.
The Prologue to be spoken by Mr. Barnister, jun.
After which will be performed the last New Pantomime Entertainment, in two Parts, called
HARLEQUIN JUNIOR;
Or, **THE MAGIC CESTUS.**
The Characters of the Pantomime, by Mr. Wright, Mr. Williamson, Mr. Burton, Mr. Staunton, Mr. Williams, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Waldron, Mr. Fawcett, Mr. Chaplin, Mr. Philimore, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Alfred, Mr. Spencer, Mr. Chapman, and Mr. Grimaldi. Mrs. Burner, Miss Burner, Miss Tidwell, Miss Barnes, Miss Cranford, and Miss Stanger.
To conclude with the Repulse of the Spaniards before **THE ROCK OF GIBRALTAR.**

To-morrow, by particular desire, (for the 4th time) the revived Comedy of the **DOUBLE DEALER,** with the favorite Masque of **ARTHUR and EMMELINE.**
On Tuesday the Tragedy of **VENICE PRESERVED:** Jaffier by Mr. Brereton, Pierre by Mr. Bentley, and Belvidera, by Mrs. Siddons: And on Friday the **Carmelite.** Mafinger's Play of the **MAID OF HONOUR,** (with alterations and Additions) is in Rehearsal and will soon be produced.

NINTH NIGHT: FOR THE AUTHOR.
AT THE THEATRE ROYAL COVENT-GARDEN, this present SATURDAY, January 1, 1785, will be performed, a New Comedy, called
THE FOLLIES OF A DAY,
Or, **The Marriage of Figaro.**
With new Dresses, Decorations, &c.
The principal Characters by Mr. Lewis, Mr. Quick, Mr. Edwin, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Wevitzer, Mr. Bonnor, Mr. Thompson, and Mrs. Martyn: Mrs. Bates, Mrs. Webb, Miss Wevitzer, and Miss Young.
With a new Prologue, to be spoken by Mr. Davies.
To which will be added, for the first time,
A new Pantomime, called,
THE MAGIC CAVERN,
Or, **VIRTUE'S TRIUMPH.**
With new Scenery, Machinery, Music, Dresses, and Decorations.
The Scenes chiefly designed by Mr. Richards, and executed by him, Mr. Carver, Mr. Hodgins, and Assistants.
The Overture, Songs, Choruses, and the Music of the new Pantomime, and composed by Mr. Shield.
Nothing under full Price will be taken.
The Words of the Songs, &c. to be had at the Theatre.

MR. WALTER returns his thanks to his Friends and the Public for the great encouragement and generous support he has already received from them to his new improvement in Printing, by the readiness with which they have subscribed to his intended publication of the works of some eminent Authors; and which he solicits a continuance of their favours, begs leave to acquaint them that by
The middle of January will be published,
In One Volume, 8vo.
MISCELLANIES IN VERSE AND PROSE,
Intended as a Specimen of his Printing Types at the Logographic Office, Printing-House Square, Blackfriars.— And by the beginning of February, his first volume, containing Watts's Improvement of the Mind, with an Introduction written on the occasion, will be ready to be delivered to the subscribers.

This Day is published, Price 6d.
PLAN OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
King's-Arms Buildings, Cornhill, London: which is open every day, for Consultation, Opinion, and Advice (verbal or in Writing) Mediation, Assistance, Arbitration, &c. in all Commercial, Maritime, and Insurance Affairs; and matters of Trade in general; and the Laws and Usage relating thereto.—The Address is, To the Director of the Chamber of Commerce, as above.
To be had of Richardson and Urquhart, Royal Exchange; J. Sewell, Cornhill; T. Whieldon, Fleet-Street; W. Fleckney, Holborn; and at the aforesaid Chamber.
Where may also be had, in One Volume Folio,
MR. WALKER'S COMPLETE DIGEST OF THE THEORY, LAWS, AND PRACTICE OF INSURANCE; an entire new and comprehensive work, including all the ad-judged Cases extant, with several never before printed; Extracts from the Statutes, foreign Ordinances, and maritime Treaties; accounts of all the Insurance Companies the Marine Courts, the commercial and maritime Laws, the Law of Nations, &c. the whole forming (alphabetically) a new Lex Mercatoria.
This Work has been compiled with great Care and Industry, by one who is evidently a Master of the Subject. It abounds with Proofs of extensive Reading; as well as mature Reflection, and judicious Remarks; and if the complete System of Insurance has hitherto been compiled to be compiled to Praise, the present useful Digest must meet with the Approbation of the commercial World. Crit. Rev. Vol. 32, p. 443.—All the other Literary Journals speak in similar Terms of this Book; which had already been translated abroad.

This Day is published, in 3 Vols. Price 5s. fewed.
By the **LITERARY SOCIETY,**
MODERN TIMES: OR THE ADVENTURES OF GABRIEL OUTCAST. A Novel, in Imitation of Gil Blas.
"Qui caput ille fecit."
Printed for the Author, and sold by J. Walker, Printing-House Square, Blackfriars; where may be had, gratis, the Plan of this Society, associated for the Encouragement of Literature, who propose to print and publish at their own Risk and Expence such original Works as they may approve of, and give their Authors all Profits arising from the same.

MRS. KING begs leave to acquaint her Friends she opens her **SCHOOL** at CHIGWELL in ESSEX, on Monday, the 10th of January, for the **EDUCATION OF YOUNG LADIES;** as she has always been accustomed to watch and improve the opening mind, hopes to give satisfaction to those who trust her with so important a charge.
Till the 10th of January Mrs. King may be spoke with at Mr. Kerr's, Gun-maker to his Majesty, in the Mews, Chancery-Row.
N. B. Wanted an Apprentice and Half-boarders.

SHIP-PING ADVERTISEMENTS

For NICE, GENOA, and LEGHORN,
(With Liberty to touch at One Port in the Channel.)
THE NANCY,
THOMAS WHITE, Commander,
BURTHEN 260 Tons; Guns and Men answerable. Lying off the Tower, and will absolutely depart on Saturday the 8th instant.
The said Commander to be spoke with every morning at Sam's Coffee-house, near the Custom-house; at Will's Coffee-house, in Cornhill; and at Exchange House in the French and Italian Walk; or
WILLIAM ELYARD, for the said Commander, No. 16, Savage-Garden.

Direct for LISBON,
THE NANCY,
JOHN RACKHAM, Commander,
BURTHEN 300 Tons, Men answerable. Lying off Hordlydown Chain; Seven-eighths of her Cargo absolutely engaged, and is obliged by Charterparty to depart on Saturday the 8th instant.
The said Commander to be spoke with every morning at Sam's Coffee-house, near the Custom-house; at Will's Coffee-house, in Cornhill; and in Exchange House in the French and Italian Walk; or
WILLIAM ELYARD, for the said Commander, No. 16, Savage-Garden.

For NICE, GENOA, and LEGHORN,
(With Liberty to Touch at One Port in the Channel.)
THE LIVELY,
ROBERT BRINE, Commander,
BURTHEN 200 Tons, Guns and Men answerable. Lying off Iron Gate.
The said Commander to be spoke with every Morning at Sam's Coffee-house, near the Custom-house; at Will's Coffee-house in Cornhill; and in Exchange House in the French and Italian Walk; or
WILLIAM ELYARD, for the said Commander, No. 16, Savage-Garden.

For CONSTANTINOPLE and SMYRNA, or SMYRNA and CONSTANTINOPLE,
(With Liberty to Touch at One Port in the Channel.)
THE BETSEY,
ROBERT LANCASTER, Commander,
BURTHEN 300 Tons, Men answerable. Lying at Iron-Gate. Two-thirds of her Cargo engaged, and is obliged to depart by Charterparty, in all the present Month of January.
The said Commander to be spoke with every Morning at Sam's Coffee-house, near the Custom-house; at Will's Coffee-house in Cornhill; and in Exchange House in the French and Italian Walk; or
WILLIAM ELYARD, for the said Commander, No. 16, Savage-Garden.
N. B. No Goods to be taken on Board the Vessel without an Order from the Broker.

NEW NOVELS.
This Day are published, (in two Volumes, price 5s. fewed.)
THE YOUNG WIDOW; OR, THE HISTORY OF MRS. LEDWICH.
The HISTORY of Lord BELFORD and Miss SOPHIA WOODLEY, 3 vol. 5s. bound.
Printed for the Editor, and sold by F. Noble, in Holborn; Where may be had lately published,
St. Ruth's Abbey, a Novel; 3 vols. 5s. bound.
The Woman of Letters; or, History of Fanny Selton, 2 vol. 7s. bound.
A Lesson for Lovers; or, History of Col. Melville and Lady Richly, 2 vols. 7s. bound.
Literary Amusements; or, Evening Entertainer, 2 vol. 7s. bound.
Adventures of a Cavalier, by Daniel Defoe, 3 vols. 9s. bound.

T. RICKABY, PRINTER,
No. 15, Duke's Court, Drury Lane;
Respectfully informs his Friends and the Public in general, that the Partnership between him and Mr. Moore being entirely dissolved, he now intends to carry on every branch of the PRINTING BUSINESS upon his own account;—and having purchased a complete assortment of the newest and best materials, is determined to pursue a Mode of Printing which he hopes will meet with the approbation of his employers.
N. B. Cards, Hand-Bills, Circular Letters, and all articles of the kind; accurately printed at a few hours notice, in a manner particularly neat, and at the lowest prices.
* An Apprentice wanted.

To the Readers of the London Medical Journal.
This day is first published, price 1s.
SYMPATHY DEFENDED; OR, THE STATE MEDICAL CRITICISM in London; written to improve the Principles and Manners of the Editor of the London Medical Journal: To which are added the Contents of the Treatise on Medical Sympathy, and a Postscript, on account of a premature Review in a late Number of the London Medical Journal.
By a Society of Faculties;
Friends to the Public and Enemies to Impostion.
Cum tua non edas, carpi mea carmina, Laeli,
"Carp re vel noli gaudere, eda tua."
MART. EPIG.
This pamphlet has been hitherto distributed gratuitously. The repeated applications for them, particularly from the country, have become so numerous, that the Society feel themselves under the necessity of putting them into the hands of a publisher.
Sold by J. Murray, Bookseller, Fleet-Street.
Nondum lingua silet dextra, peregit opus.
MART.

SHORT-HAND, on the latest and most approved Principles taught by J. LARKHAM, No. 11, Rose Alley, Bishopsgate Street.
It would exceed the limits of an advertisement merely to mention the various errors either in the plan or the execution of the different schemes of Short-hand hitherto made public, or to point out the peculiarities and excellencies of the present: Mr. L. therefore only begs leave to observe, that the approbation of many gentlemen well known in the literary world, and well versed in the Theory and Practice of Short-hand, expressed in stronger terms than delicacy will permit him to repeat, warrants him in saying his will be found a system of short and swift writing; more easy to acquire and retain, more expeditious, more legible and more regular than any ever yet offered to the Public.
The terms of teaching are Guinea, the usual time of learning few lessons.

To the Public.

To bring out a New Paper at the present day; when so many others are already established and confirmed in the public opinion, is certainly an arduous undertaking; and so one can be more fully aware of its difficulties than I am: I, nevertheless, entertain very sanguine hopes, that the nature of the plan on which this paper will be conducted, will ensure it a moderate share at least of public favour; but my pretensions to encouragement, however strong they may appear in my own eyes, must be tried before a tribunal not liable to be blinded by self-opinion; to that tribunal I shall now, as I am bound to do, submit these pretensions with deference, and the public will judge whether they are well or ill founded.
It is very far from my intention to detract from the acknowledged merit of the Daily Papers now in existence; it is sufficient that they please the class of readers whose approbation their conductors are ambitious to deserve; nevertheless it is certain some of the best, some of the most respectable, and some of the most useful members of the community, have frequently complained (and the causes of their complaints still exist) that by radical defects in the plans of the present established papers, they were deprived of many advantages, which ought naturally to result from daily publications. Of these some build their fame on the length and accuracy of parliamentary reports, which unquestionably are given with great ability, and with a laudable zeal to please those, who can spare time to read ten or twelve columns of debates. Others are principally attentive to the politics of the day, and make it their study to give satisfaction to the numerous class of politicians, who, blessed with easy circumstances, have nothing better to do, than to amuse themselves with watching the motions of ministers both at home and abroad; and endeavouring to find out the secret springs that set in motion the great machine of government in every state and empire in the world. There is one paper which in so degree interferes with the pursuits of its cotemporaries; it looks upon parliamentary debates as sacred mysteries, that cannot be submitted to vulgar eyes without profanation; political investigations it apprehends to be little short of treason, and therefore loyally abstains from them; it deals almost solely in advertisements; and consequently, though a very useful, it is by no means an entertaining paper. Thus it would seem that every News-Paper published in London is calculated for a particular set of readers only; so that if each set were to change its favourite publication for another, the communication would produce disgust, and dissatisfaction to all; the politician would then find nothing to amuse him but long accounts of petty squabbles about trifles in Parliament, or panegyrics on the men and measures that he most disliked; or libels on those whom he most revered. The person to whom parliamentary debates afford unspeakable delight, would find himself bored with political speculations about the measures that the different courts in Europe might probably adopt; or disgusted with whole pages of advertisements, in which he felt no concern;— whilst the plain shop-keeper who wanted to find a convenient house for his business, and the servant who purchased his paper in hopes of seeing in it an advertisement directing where he might find a place to suit him, would have their labour for their pains, in perusing publications, filled with senatorial debates, or political essays and remarks, which would direct them to nothing less than the boufe or place they wanted.—A News-Paper, conducted on the true and natural principles of such a publication, ought to be the Register of the times, and faithful recorder of every species of intelligence; it ought not to be engrossed by any particular object; but, like a well covered table, it should contain something suited to every palate: observations on the dispositions of our own and of foreign courts should be provided for the political reader; debates should be reported for the amusement or information of those who may be particularly fond of them; and a due attention should be paid to the interests of trade, which are so greatly promoted by advertisements.—A paper that should blend all these advantages, and by steering clear of extremes, hit the happy medium, has long been expected by the public.—Such, it is intended, shall be the UNIVERSAL REGISTER, the great objects of which will be to facilitate the commercial intercourse between the different parts of the community, through the channel of Advertisements; to record the principal occurrences of the times; and to abridge the account of debates during the sitting of Parliament.

It is no less the interest of the proprietors of News-Papers, than of the public, that every encouragement should be given to advertising correspondents; yet this private interest of the proprietors is frequently sacrificed to the rage for parliamentary debates, to the great injury of trade; for the extreme length of these debates so greatly retards the publication of the News-Papers which are noted for detailed accounts of them, that the advantages arising from this species of intelligence, though highly acceptable in itself, are frequently over-balanced by the inconveniences occasioned to people in business by the delay. These inconveniences are great and many; it generally happens, that when either House of

Parliament has been engaged in the discussion of an important question till after midnight, the papers in which the speeches of the Members are reported at large, cannot be published before noon; nay, they sometimes are not even sent to press to 5 o'clock; consequently parties interested in sales are essentially injured, as the advertisements, inviting the public to attend them at ten or twelve o'clock, do not appear, on account of a late publication, till some hours after.—From the same source flows another inconvenience; it is sometimes found necessary to defer sales, after they have been advertised for a particular day; but the notice of putting them off not appearing early enough, on account of the late hour at which the papers containing it are published, numbers of people, acting under the impression of former advertisements, are unnecessarily put to the trouble of attending.—It will be the object of the Universal Register to guard against these great inconveniences, without depriving its readers of the pleasure of learning what passes in Parliament.—It is intended, then, that the debates shall be regularly reported in it; but on the other hand, that the publication may not be delayed to the prejudice of people in trade, the speeches will not be given on a large scale; the substance shall be faithfully preserved; but all the uninteresting parts will be omitted. I shall thus be enabled to publish this paper at an early hour; and I propose to bring it out regularly every morning at six o'clock. The Universal Register will therefore have this advantage over the Daily Advertiser, that, though published as early, it will contain a substantial account of the proceedings in Parliament the preceding night, which is never to be found in that paper; and compared with the other morning papers it will be found to have the merit of containing in substance, what they give in long detail (which men in business cannot well spare time to read) and, nevertheless, of being published much sooner. These circumstances, it is hoped, will give the Universal Register at least an equal claim to public favour with the parliamentary papers, and the trading part of the metropolis, it is presumed, will find it their advantage to give it the preference.

An essential part of the plan of this new paper is, that, for the convenience of advertising correspondents, their favours shall, to a certainty, be inserted on the very day that they shall direct; provided they deliver them at the office in due time. For the strict observance of this rule, the credit of the paper shall stand pledged; and its pretensions to public countenance will be renounced, if this fundamental principle in its institution shall ever be violated, except in cases of absolute necessity, which human prudence cannot prevent.—And here I beg it may be understood that I do not make use of the word necessity as a reserve, under colour of which, I may, whenever I think fit, be released from my engagements; I mean by that word a necessity arising from accidents that sometimes happen in the printing business, and from which the most careful man cannot, at all times, be secure. But so far from wishing to shrink from my engagements, I intend, whenever the length of the Gazette, Parliamentary Debates, &c. shall render it impossible for me to insert all the advertisements promised for the day, in one sheet, to print an additional half sheet, and publish it with the ordinary paper without any additional charge to my customers.—From the difficulty that people experience in procuring the insertion of their advertisements even in the Daily Advertiser; and particularly from the impossibility of obtaining an early insertion at some periods of the year, it may be presumed that this regulation will greatly recommend the UNIVERSAL REGISTER to public notice, and procure it support.

These, though to my opinion good, are not the only grounds on which I build my hopes of success. I flatter myself, I have some claim to public encouragement, on account of a great improvement which I have made in the art of printing. The inconveniences attending the old and tedious mode of composing with letters taken up singly, first suggested the idea of devising some more expeditious method. The cementing of several letters together, so as that the type of a whole word might be taken up in as short a time as that of a single letter, was the result of much reflection on that subject. But the bare idea of cementing was merely the opening, not the accomplishment or perfection of the improvement. The fount consisting of types of words, and not of letters, was to be so arranged, as that a compositor should be able to find the former with as much facility as he can the latter. This was a work of inconceivable difficulty. I undertook it however, and was fortunate enough, after an infinite number of experiments, and great labour, to bring it to a happy conclusion. The whole English language is now methodically and systematically arranged at my fount: so that printing can now be performed with greater dispatch, and at less expence, than according to the mode hitherto in use.

In bringing this work to perfection, I had not my own advantage solely in view; I wished to be useful to the community; and it is with pleasure I see that the public will derive considerable benefit from my industry; for I have resolved to sell the REGISTER One halfpenny, whereas the price paid for seven out of eight of the morning

papers; however I indulge a hope that this sacrifice which I make of the usual profits of printing, will be felt by a generous public; and that they will so far favour me with advertisements, as to enable me to defray the heavy expences attending the literary departments in the paper, and to make a livelihood for myself and my family.—The favour that I now earnestly solicit, I shall diligently labour to preserve, without entertaining a presumptuous wish that I may enjoy it one moment longer, than I shall be found to deserve it.

The *Register*, in its politics, will be of no party: weakened as the country is by a long and expensive war, and rent by intestine divisions, nothing but the union of all parties can save it from destruction. Moderate men, therefore, I trust, will countenance a paper, which has for one of its objects to cool the animosities, stifle the resentments, manage the personal honour, and reconcile the principals of contending parties; while the favours of those will be courted, who support principles, by fair argument, and think that a good cause may be injured by personalities, and low invective, the correspondence of such as descend to illiberal abuse, and attack the *man* rather than the *measure*, will always be disregarded. The *Register*, instead of dealing in scurrilities and abusing the great men in power, or the great men out of power; or, instead of deifying the one or the other, will reserve to itself a right of censuring or applauding either, as their conduct may occasionally appear proper or improper.

If censure should be thought necessary, it shall be conveyed in language suited to the respect that is due to the public, before whose tribunal the individual is arraigned; and no provocation shall be deemed an excuse for illiberal abuse, or personality.

Nothing shall ever find a place in the *Universal Register*, that can tend to wound the ear of delicacy, or corrupt the heart: vice shall never be suffered there to wear the garb of virtue: To hold out the former in alluring colours, would strike at the very root of morality; and, concealing the native deformity of vice, might seduce unsuspecting innocence from the paths of virtue.

As a News-Paper ought to be at the service of the Public, by whom it is supported, I shall not hold myself excusable, through the example of others, in opening the *Register* to one kind of advertisements, and partially shutting it against others: I hold that I have a right to consider only whether the advertisements offered for insertion contain anything contrary to law or morality; and that, if they do not, I should violate my duty to the public, in refusing to insert them when paid for. A News-Paper in this particular ought to resemble an *Inn*, where the proprietor is obliged to give the use of his house to all travellers, who are ready to pay for it, and against whose persons there is no legal or moral objection.

The miscellaneous articles of intelligence will be regularly arranged under the heads of *Theatres, Trials, Ship News, Market Prices, Bills of Entry, Prices Current, Stocks, Promotions, Marriages, Deaths, &c.* Though it is intended that faithful accounts shall be given of all remarkable trials at law, still those will be more particularly attended to, in which the mercantile world may be most interested. In a word, no pains or expence will be spared, that can render the *Universal Register* of utility to the public.

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Such is the plan that Mr. WALTER has laid down for the conduct of his paper: he now sends it forth into the world, in hopes that it will appear to the public deserving of their encouragement. For his own part, he will no longer expect their countenance and favour, than he shall be found strictly to adhere to the engagements into which he now enters, in this sketch that he humbly begs leave to lay before them.

J. WALTER.
* * * Advertisements, Essays, real Articles of Intelligence, &c. to which great attention will be paid, will be taken in at the OFFICE in Printing-house Square; and for the greater convenience of the distant parts of the town, at Mr. SEARLE'S, Grocer, No. 55, Oxford-street; Mr. THRALES'S, Pastry Cook, opposite the Admiralty; M. WILSON'S LIBRARY, No. 45, Lombard-street; Mr. PRATT'S, Greek Grocer, No. 84, Wapping; and Mr. STERNES, No. 156, opposite St. George's Church, Borough.

255 The Ladies and Gentlemen who may be pleased to take in this Paper, may be supplied with it by any of the NEWSMEN.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

Yesterday arrived the Mails from France and Flanders, which brought the following news.

Nuremberg, Nov. 25, 1784.

THE agreement concluded between the Emperor's commissaries and those of the Circle of Franconia, with regard to the necessary supply of provisions of every kind for the Imperial troops during their march through the Circle, to the Low Countries, is in substance as follows: 1st, each soldier and non-commissioned officer shall receive at their lodgings, half a pound of flesh, two pounds of bread, roots and a pot of beer, or a bottle of wine, at the rate of 8 kreutzers; 2d, each horse shall have 8 pounds of oats, 2 pounds of hay, and half a truss of straw, at 30 kreutzers; 3d, waggons drawn by four horses or six oxen, may be paid at the rate of 2 florins per bead; 4th, nothing more than what is contained in the first article shall be exacted from those who quarter the troops, and whatever surplus they may give shall be paid for in ready money; 5th, officers and all persons following the army, must pay ready money for whatever they contract for.

We are assured that the commissaries of the Circle have requested of those of the Emperor, to insert in this conversation that, in consequence

of the dearth of grain, and particularly of forage, it would be impossible for the Circle, in case of another march through their State, to furnish the troops with supplies; and that they intended addressing his Imperial Majesty on this point.

Frankfort, Dec. 16. The military chest is to be established in this city, and to be guarded by the regiment of Priests, which will remain here during the winter. It seems our town will be the rendezvous of a considerable part of the Austrian army, for within these few days we have had 85 commissaries for provisions. Enlisting is carried on with the greatest success in this city and neighbourhood.

On the 7th 300 of Wormser's hussars passed through Hof: 13,019 of the Imperial troops, with 721 horses, were expected in the environs of Landau, on the 17th current.

The Swifs have refused granting troops to the Dutch.

Cologne, Dec. 21. We learn from Baruth, that on the morning of the 11th instant, the regiment of Coubourg passed through there on their way to Luxembourg.

By letters from Nuremberg of the 13th, we learn, that 25 positions preceded by an officer, two gentlemen, eight Imperial chasseurs, leading fifty-two saddle horses, belonging to the Emperor, arrived the 6th current at Ratisbonne, and that they are to be followed by two waggons loaded with his Majesty's kitchen furniture.

Orders are given to prepare quarters for the Emperor, at the White Lamb at Nuremberg, and on the 12th and on the 13th at night, the whole of the above mentioned cavalcade entered this city. On the 13th, a large body of Imperial troops passed through Neustadt-An-der-hard, which is to be followed by many other corps, all destined for the Low Countries.

Prince Kaunitz Ritbourg, Chancellor of State, has disappeared for some days; his place is filled by Vice Chancellor, Count de Cobenzel. On the 3d, dispatches were received from the Imperial Ambassador, at Paris, which employed his Imperial Majesty the whole afternoon; he was the entire evening in his closet, and not at leisure to assist at the opera, as he intended. His Majesty has absolutely rejected the last propositions for a reconciliation from the Court of France, and insists upon the free and unlimited navigation of the Scheldt. The declared opposition of France would not change this resolution, as his Majesty's dignity is at stake. The Emperor has often made known these dispositions; he has even been heard to say, that he might forgive an attack from a crowned head, but that he could never forgive the injury done to by the Dutch. According to the declaration of the French Court, although conceived in general, yet friendly terms, it is not imagined that it will openly oppose the Austrians. Who is unacquainted with the powerful influence which the Count de Vergennes and his party have, to inspire the King with other counsels, when fully convinced of his Majesty's invincible resolution? Mean time we see innumerable couriers, and the dispatches are sealed by the Chancellor in person. On the other hand, the King of France's letter, so emphatically mentioned, has existed only in the brains of newsmongers. The truth is, the ministry of Versailles, on the 20th of November, sent a sufficiently energetic memoir to our Cabinet; it was delivered on the 27th of the same month, by the Marquis de Noailles: it is certain no answer was made to it on the 4th current.

Antwerp, Dec. 23. Although the Emperor has accepted the mediation of France, his resolution is, let the result be what it may, to maintain constantly 40,000 men in the Low Countries, to be ready on any emergency. Lodgings are still preparing here for the army; a body of waggons arrived here, with two horses from Luxembourg, for the Emperor's service.

Leige, Dec. 19. His Highness our gracious Prince was this morning consecrated Bishop, by the Marquis of Hohenbrock, Bishop of Ruremonde, assisted by the Abbots of St. Lawrence and St. Giles. This august ceremony was performed in the chapel of the palace, with the usual formalities, and with the most edifying devotions without any ostentatious preparation. To-morrow being the day appointed for inauguration, there will be no illuminations. His Highness wishes they may be suppressed, and in conformity to his paternal views the expences attending them will be converted to objects more useful, and more pleasing to his beneficent heart.

Letters from Sicily inform, that a 24 gun ship, belonging to Chevalier Emo's Squadron, sunk in a storm, and that the second in command of her, died in a wound he had received at the bombardment of Suje.

Paris, Dec. 20. We are informed of an answer made by the King of Prussia to the Commandant of Cleves, who wanted to know of his Majesty how he was to act if the Austrian troops should attempt to pass through his territories.—The answer was, "That if the Austrian troops marched towards the Duchy of Cleves, he should tell them they had mistaken the way; if they persisted, he should make prisoners of them; and if they resisted, kill them."

"Signed, Frederick."

L O N D O N.

Yesterday their Majesties came from Windsor, and last night honoured the Theatre with their presence.

This day being New-Year's Day, their Majesties will appear in the drawing room at St. James's, and receive the compliments of the nobility, gentry, and foreign ministers on the occasion of the day. The following Ode, composed by Paul Whitehead, Esq. Poet Laureat, will be sung in the great Council Chamber.

ODE FOR THE NEW YEAR.

Jan. 1st, 1785.

DELUSIVE is the poet's dream,
Or does prophetic truth inspire
The zeal which prompts the glowing theme
And animates the according Lyre?
Trust the Muse: her eye commands
Distant times, and distant lands

Thro' bursting clouds in opening skies,
Sees from discord union rise,
And friendship bind unwilling foes
In firmer ties than duty knows.
Torn rudely from its parent tree
Yon Scion, rising in the West,
Will soon its genuine glory see,
And court again the fostering breast
Whose pasture gave its powers to spread
And feel their force, and lift an alien head.
The parent tree, when storms impend,
Shall own affection's warmth again,
Again its fostering aid shall lend
Nor hear the suppliant plead in vain,
Shall stretch protecting branches round,
Extend the shelter, and forget the wound.
Two Britons thro' the admiring world,
Shall wing their way with sails unfurl'd;
Each from the other kindred state,
Avert by turns the bolts of fate,
And acts of mutual amity endear
The Tyre and Carthage of a wider sphere.
When Rome's divided eagles flew,
And different throats her Empire knew,
The varying language soon disjoin'd
The boasted matters of mankind.
But here no ill like those we fear,
No varying language threatens here:
Congenial worth, congenial flame,
Their manners and their arts the same;
To the same tongue shall glowing themes afford,
And British heroes act, and British bards record.
Fly swift ye years, ye minutes haste,
And in the future lose the past.
O'er many a thought-afflicting tale,
Oblivion, cast thy friendly veil,
Let not memory breathe a sigh,
Or backward turn th' indignant eye;
Nor the insidious arts of foes
Enlarge the breach that longs to close,
But acts of amity alone inspire
Firm truth, and cordial love, and wake the willing lyre.

The business which brought Mr. Secretary Orde and Mr. Foster, Chancellor of the Exchequer, from Ireland, was finally determined on Tuesday in a cabinet council, held for that purpose. This business was relative to the *Protecting Duties*, so generally called for in Ireland, and an adjustment of several difficulties that occurred in the commercial intercourse between that country and this. The friends of the Irish administration say, that the terms Mr. Orde has obtained from the minister, will give general satisfaction in Ireland: but without fearing the danger of being found false prophets, we do not hesitate to say that these terms, so far from giving general satisfaction, will be received by the Irish as an insult to their understanding, if it be true, as it is reported, that the minister has bound himself to no more than this—"That he will advise his Majesty to give his royal assent to a bill or bills sent to him from Ireland, for imposing certain duties on woollen cloths, &c. of an inferior quality, imported into that kingdom from Great Britain." Duties, amounting even to a prohibition, on such cloths, will never give satisfaction to the Irish, for this reason—very little of such cloths, if any, is imported by them; for the manufacture of lower priced woollens is carried to much greater perfection in Ireland than in England; and even whilst the prohibition to export Irish woollens existed, Ireland, by a smuggled trade, supplied the Americans with coarse cloths, and greatly under-sold the English manufacturer. It is in the making of *superfine* cloths that the English surpasses the Irish; it was on *superfine* British woollens that Ireland called for duties, which should operate as a *protection* and encouragement to her own manufacture of *fine* cloths; and these duties being refused, nothing in fact is granted.

Three days before Christmas day, a messenger extraordinary from the Court of Petersburg arrived at the hotel of his Excellency Monf. Kalitchoff, the Russian Minister at the Hague, with the following memorial, which his Excellency, by order of his Sovereign, immediately delivered to the President of the States General: we are happy to lay before our readers the contents of a memorial, which has for object the preventing of a war, and the preservation of public tranquillity.

"Her Majesty the Empress of all the Russias never lost sight for a moment since the beginning of her reign, of the happiness and tranquillity of Europe in general: it was therefore with the most lively concern, she received intelligence that the negotiations between the States General and the Emperor, her friend and ally, had been interrupted by acts of hostility, which would seem to put it out of the power of his Imperial Majesty to take any other steps, than such as the care of his dignity, which stands committed in the face of Europe, should suggest. Her Majesty the Empress has given too many marks of the interest she takes in the peace and prosperity of the Republic, not to be confident that their High Mightinesses will consider the invitation which she now sends them, to devise means for opening again the way to accommodation, as the fruits of the most pure and laudable desire to restore tranquillity, and prevent hostilities, that might end in open war, and disturb the peace of all Europe. Her Majesty then requests their High Mightinesses will think of the means that their wisdom may suggest, to bring the dispute to an amicable conclusion, a consummation as salutary as it is useful to both parties."

This memorial has given an alarm in Amsterdam; for though the Empress seems to breathe nothing but peace; though magnanimity is manifested in it, to a great degree; yet, still it is feared that her connexions with the Emperor may have great influence on her mind, when acting as a mediatrix between the Dutch, and a monarch whom she emphatically calls her friend and ally.

Lord Grantham arrived in Town on Thursday night: a particular mandate or message from a Great Personage, it is said, was the occasion of his Lordship's haste. A return to official business in Cleveland Row, is supposed to be the object of his Lordship's call from his rural retreat.

GUILDHALL INTELLIGENCE.

The adjourned examination of Mr. Turner, a bankrupt, was resumed yesterday.—The nature of the case was this.—Messrs. Turner and Smith, Linendrapers in Oxford-Road, had failed some time ago, and a commission of bankruptcy issued against them. On their examination, the commissioners were so dissatisfied with their answers, that they committed them both to Newgate. On Thursday they were examined again, and Mr. Smith was discharged from his confinement; but his partner, Mr. Turner, not appearing to deserve the same indulgence, was again committed. The commissioners seemed to be of opinion at first, that his examination should be closed; and that he should be made to abide by the answers he had already given: but his creditors wishing that this unhappy man should not perish on this occasion, begged that he might be indulged with another examination, in which he might at last tell the truth, and save his life. The commissioners then gave him three hours more to reflect upon his situation; but the creditors still desirous that he might have time to sleep upon the business, they prolonged the indulgence to yesterday at noon. The creditors had great reason to believe that concealments of property to a considerable amount, had been made by the bankrupt; and the answers given by him, confirmed them in this opinion, though they were intended by him to remove it. The commissioners met yesterday pursuant to adjournment, and the prisoner having been brought before them, Mr. Morgan, his counsel, opened the business with a written string of interrogatories, which he put to the bankrupt; this mode of proceeding was objected to by Mr. Garrow, counsel for the creditors; he grounded his objection on that, first, such a method would necessarily protract the business of the day to an useless length; second, that it was shewing too great an indulgence to the prisoner, whom he supposed to be previously intrusted in his answers, he therefore did not hesitate to prefer a narrative from the prisoner to an interrogatory from his counsel.

Mr. Morgan rose and entered into a short, though interesting detail of the many inconveniences and losses to which people in trade are daily liable to, he did not at all doubt but there were many among the prisoner's creditors; there present, who had some time or other, experienced the truth of his assertion, and who would wish in their misfortunes to have met with indulgence; his argument went to prove that a person in the unhappy circumstances of Mr. Turner, whom poverty with its concomitant disadvantages, stared in the face, had the shadow of an excuse to acquiesce some of his good, to be able thereby in some time, with economy and prudent regulation, to satisfy all his creditors; he however by no means approved the conduct of those who concealed their goods to deceive the merchants who trusted them; on the contrary he reprobated it, and thought no punishment too great for the offence; but he contended that the bankrupt then in court was by no means in the predicament alluded to, and consequently was entitled to the indulgence due to innocence; he concluded by mentioning the severity of the laws with respect to bankrupts. Here Mr. Garrow stood up, and was of opinion that poverty or any other worldly inconvenience could not lead an honest man from the paths of probity; if there ever was an example of the kind, the prisoner in question could not plead his right to be excepted; he had given proofs of his dishonest intentions, and he, (Mr. Garrow,) was in possession of a letter which would every day tend to disclose his secret manœuvres; he further affected that Mr. Turner had been treated with unexampled lenity and favour, he had many advantages allowed him to give him every opportunity of exculpating himself from the crime he was accused of, he feared that his indulgence to the prisoner would draw on him the displeasure of his clients: he owned that the laws were very severe with respect to bankrupts; but he insisted that they were only so for the fair trader, the honest merchant, whose losses were the effects of the capricious deity, rather than those that result from dissipation and extravagance.

The prisoner being asked whether the court was in possession of all the papers notifying all the debts due to him and owing to others, he answered in the affirmative, but being forewarned by his counsel of the fatal consequences of any secret embezzlement, he owned that a Mr. Fairborne, broker, had a bill of his for 18 guineas, that he had given a note of 179l. to Mrs. Wright, (with whom he had lived,) and also seventy odd pounds for having lodged with her. The prisoner answers on the whole were evasive and nugatory. The Commissioners adjourned to a Coffee House, in order to examine him still further in private.

Extract of a letter from Vienna, Dec. 4.
"We are sending off the heavy artillery from this city, which is also to furnish two thousand recruits for the army of the Low Countries. They are raising in Galicia a body of Uhlans, who are to assemble at Brinn."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We would with pleasure have inserted gratis all the Advertisements that were sent to us, had we not received an intimation from the Stamp-Office, that the King's duty is to be paid for every advertisement that should appear in our first day's paper: we were therefore obliged to leave out all the factors of an advertising friends, who, unperceived of this circumstance, did not send the stamp-duty with each advertisement.

TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.

A YOUTH properly qualified, may be placed out an Apprentice in a wholesale and retail tea and grocery warehouse in the city, where he will be properly qualified in a general lucrative line of business; and at the expiration of his engagement, an opportunity of establishing himself on the spot: a circumstance which seldom happens. As every requisite satisfaction will be given his friends, a liberal premium is expected.—Address a line to Mr. Pugh, at Baker's Coffee-house, Change-Alley.

Advertisement

Meetings of CREDITORS this Day at GUILDHALL.
James Harris, Dowgate-hill, Merchant, by enlargement, final examination—ten o'clock.
Robert Heston, Bishopsgate-street, Oilman, last meeting—ten o'clock.
Charles House, and John Jay, Lynn-Regis, Norfolk, Linen-druggers, ditto—ten o'clock.
William Fimborne, George-Road, Tyburn Turnpike, dealer, ditto—ten o'clock.
Lewis Benjamin Crisford, Fenchurch-street, Merchant, ditto—eleven o'clock.
William Brillenden, Holborn, Broker, ditto—ten o'clock.
Thomas Vaux, late of Watling-street, Warehouse-man, ditto—eleven o'clock.
Samuel Biggrave, Bedford, Grocer, dividend—ten o'clock.
Charles Child, Ex-husband, Surrey, Shop-keeper, second meeting—ten o'clock.
Thomas Forth, Portpool-lane, Holborn, Pawnbroker, ditto—ten o'clock.
John Cuff, Barking, Essex, Corn-chandler, first ditto—ten o'clock.

D E A T H S.
Died a few days ago, at his house in Greenwich, Capt. Robert Walter, of the Royal Navy.
In Dublin, the Honourable Miss Isabella Howard, second daughter to the Right Hon. Lord Clonmore.

Sir Richard Hill opportunely quotes Solomon, observing, That there is a time and season for all things. But, in this age, for time, might be placed—rage for all things. Witness the Sidonian rage—Balloon rage—party rage, &c. &c. The tide seems now setting in for a savage rage to behold the wondrous Child of the Son now exhibiting the second-house in Piccadilly from the Haymarket, where all denominations of people are now flocking, from the peer to the peasant, and seem universally interested in the grand question—Whether this astonishing production is man or monster? The naturalists affirm the former, while the connoisseurs contend for the latter; but the general opinion appears to be, that it is that very important link of nature's chain, which unites the animal to the human species, in the same manner as the Polypus is supposed to be the link which joins the animal and vegetable worlds. Any farther comments may be unnecessary, as the curious have now an opportunity of seeing and judging the order, class, and properties of this astonishing non-descript.

Messrs. STOCKDALE, SCATCHARD, WHITAKER, and FIELDING, Proprietors of the OCTAVO Edition of COOK'S VOYAGES, respectfully inform the Subscribers, that a Mr. George Nicoll, the agent feller of the Quarto Edition, did on the 14th inst. obtain *ex parte*, an injunction, which arrests their sale till the merits of the case comes before the Court of Chancery, on the 15th of January instant.

The circumstances attending the proceedings of Mr. Nicoll in obtaining this injunction, being unprecedented, are worthy the attention of the public.—No notice of this application was served upon the defendants, and the injunction, when obtained, was not delivered until it was too late for the defendants to put in their answer, which would have prevented its operation. The reason of this conduct is evident; the agent knowing the weakness of his case, resorted to the mean subterfuge of trick. If his case be good, why did he not come forward like a brother tradesman, and meet the defendants upon the merits before the Chancellor, from whose candour and impartial justice he must have been certain of receiving redress, if he had suffered injury.

This injunction being obtained by surprise, the proprietors are prevented from delivering the few remaining numbers till after a hearing, which will take place the middle of this month. The five subsequent numbers are printed and ornamented in the same style of elegance, which has marked the preceding ones, and which, by giving the work a superiority over the quarto edition, has stimulated the envy of Mr. Nicoll, who, by putting an exorbitant price upon the edition partially vendible by him, frustrates the intention of Parliament, which granted a supply of public money for the purpose of disseminating nautical and philosophical knowledge among all classes, and who did not mean to confine it to the opulent, or bury it in dusty libraries to which the public have no access.

* * * The Subscribers to the Octavo edition who have not already favoured the Proprietors with their names, are desired to send them immediately, as the work is already completed, except the list of Subscribers names, for which they will wait till the 8th inst. and no longer.

Delivered gratis.—A list of 166 surprising cures, performed by Buzaglio, opposite Somerset-House, in the Strand, on persons of the first distinction, who were afflicted with the Gout, Rheumatism, Palsy, Lameness, Weakness of Limbs, or Contractions of the Sinews: most of the patients pronounced incurable by the Faculty; Buzaglio invites Ladies and Gentlemen to see and converse with his patients at his house, in order that they may be convinced by the evidence of their senses, of the surprising efficacy of the discovery, which excludes fumigation, bathing, or the use of medicine, and operates the different cures by exercise only.—Those who are deluded with the idea that the waters of Bath and Bristol have superior virtue, in gouty, rheumatic, and paralytic cases, will find, under Buzaglio's care, inhabitants of rank of both cities, who in a few days have experienced a relief from exercise only, which they had fondly expected from the waters for many years. Buzaglio strongly recommends it to those who are subject to periodical attacks of the gout, &c. to apply to him before the fit has confined them to their beds.

T U R T L E.
NOTT'S COFFEE-HOUSE, BUTCHER-R.O.W.
NOTT begs leave to inform the public, that he has preserved a quantity of fine Green TURTLE, which he will warrant to carry to any part of the country Ready-dressed.—The Nobility and Gentry, by honouring him with their commands may be supplied with any quantity for their Houses in town, or packed for carriage.
N. B. Served in his Coffee-House as usual; where there are variety of other SOUPS, fresh every day; and Dinners dressed on the shortest notice.

This Day is published, Price only 2s. bound, **SUBMISSION TO THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD:** or, the Necessity of trusting to a better Righteousness than our own. Opened and defended in a plain practical Discourse upon Romans x. 3.
By B. JENKINS, late Rector of Harley in Shropshire, and Chaplain to the Right Hon. the Earl of Bradford.
London: Printed and Sold by F. Rawcett, Successor to the late Mr. Pafham, No. 35, Shoe-maker Row, Blackfriars; Sold also by J. Matthews, Strand; H. D. Symonds, Stationer's Court, Ludgate Hill; W. Flexney, opposite Gray's-inn Gate, Holborn; and W. Ald, No. 15, Linde Tower-street.

From the Commissioners for paying, &c. Westminster.
Westminster Bridge-office, Dec. 14, 1784.

TO the several Creditors for Interest and Bills on the paying account. It appearing to the Commissioners that great inconveniences have arisen by the number of drafts which are now and constantly have been in the hands of their Treasurer for Interest and Bills undischarged for a great length of time, the Commissioners request of all persons who have any such demands, that they do immediately apply for the same on Thursdays, between the hours of Eleven and One. Notice is also hereby given to all such Creditors, that in respect to any Dividend or Demand to accrue, the Commissioners will meet at their Office on the first and third Tuesdays in every month, and desire all the said Creditors will give at least seven Days Notice in writing (previous to one of the said Days the Commissioners are to meet) of their Intention of being at the said Office on the particular Thursday on which they propose to receive their Dividends or Bills (as the case may be), when the said Monies will certainly be paid. By Order of the Commissioners,
Geo. BOX, Clerk.

THE Proprietors of the **UNIVERSAL LONDON PRICE CURRENT**, by THOMAS MORRIS and CO. containing the prices of Merchandise in general, with the duties on importation and exportation, draughts, &c. on each article, course of exchange, prices of stocks and bullion, public sales that occur weekly, premiums of insurance to and from the most considerable places of trade, and the weekly importation of goods to the port of London, acknowledge their great obligations to the merchants and eminent tradesmen, for their indulgence and liberal encouragement of the said publication, and most respectfully solicit a continuance of their patronage. As they ever mean to bestow that unceasing attention to correctness which the extensions of so general and useful a work requires, they flatter themselves it will merit future favour and recommendation, it being much under the price of other publications of this nature.
N U M B E R XLIV.

Will be published on Tuesday next, and the future numbers will continue to be published weekly by, and to be had of, T. AXTELL, at his Shop under the Royal Exchange, and at his house, No. 1, Finch-lane, Cornhill.
Subscriptions are received by Mr. Axtell, at one pound six shillings a year, and the papers are sent to any part of England with the greatest punctuality.

N E W M U S I C.
THE favourite Song of the PAGE, sung by Mrs. MARTYR, in the Comedy of the FOLLIES of a DAY. Composed by Mr. Shield, price 1s. The Comic Opera of Fontenailles; or, Our Way in France. By the same author, price 10s. 6d. Moxley's Flute Duets, Opera 3, price 7s. 6d. Fickel's Violin Duets, Opera 4, price 7s. 6d. Mary's Dream; or, Sandy's Ghost. By Mr. Relke, 1s. Haydn's Overture, Opera 35, for Harpsichord, 10s. 6d. Vanhal's Divertissement, for Harpsichord, 10s. 6d.
Printed and sold by Longman and Broderick, at No. 25, Chesapeake, and No. 13, Hay-market; at which places Instruments of all kinds are manufactured, exchanged, sold, or lent on hire, conveyed and tuned, in town and country, on the shortest notice; and if purchased and paid for within eight months, the hire will be abated.

N. B. Mr. Giardini's capital old Violin, Tenor, and Violoncelles for sale, at No. 13, Hay-market.

KITCHEN RANGES AND OVENS,
By his Majesty's Royal Letters Patent, Invented and Sold by T. ROBINSON, Ironmonger, No. 6, Charing-Cross.

PERPETUAL OVENS, in Kitchen Ranges, upon an entire new construction, heated without the assistance of any fuel, or additional fire; replace with every advantage, and capable of every use and purpose that can possibly be required, without the least expense or trouble.

The Range has also many new and excellent improvements, deriving great advantage and utility from the Oven, being connected with it.
Recommended to Housekeepers of every degree and denomination, as the most compact, most useful, and least expensive invention of the kind ever made public.

Great variety may be seen, suited to any sized chimney, (with one in use) and a full description given.
N. B. Old Ranges altered according to the Patent, or taken in exchange. Likewise the new-invented Solid-Warded Patent Locks, that cannot be picked nor injured by the most violent attempt. Also Gentlemen's Tool Chests in great variety.

TAX ON PLATE.
A T THOMAS DANIEL'S Silver Manu- factory, No. 20, Foster-lane, opposite Goldsmith's Hall, Cheapside, Merchants, Goldsmiths and Traders, may be supplied with any quantity of several thousand ounces of the following articles, in Silver, at the Old established Wholesale Prices, of the most fashionable, finest, and soundest workmanship, DUTY FREE by which a saving will be made of TEN PER CENT. and upwards:

Vase tea and coffee kitchens, and pots—Oval pierced cruet frames, 8 glasses, 8 oz. to 20 oz.—Round pierced cruet frames, 5 glasses, 5 oz. to 15 oz.—Oval pierced sugar and cream basins, 10 oz. to 15 oz. a pair—Pierced engraved bottle stands, 20 oz. to 30 oz. each—Dish-crosettes with lamps, 14 oz. to 20 oz. each—Rich engraved tea pots and caddys, 11 oz. to 15 oz. each—Engraved and gilt inside goblets, 6 oz. to 10 oz. each—Pierced fish knives and trowels, 3 oz. to 5 oz. each—Pierced and engraved oval salts, 3 oz. to 4 oz. a pair—Pierced and solid beaded mustard pots, 3 oz. to 5 oz. each—Pierced three-toothed bread baskets, 20 oz. to 30 oz. each—Chamber flat candlesticks and snuffers, 10 oz. to 15 oz. per pair—Double and single beaded waiters, all sizes—Sauce boats engraved and beaded, 12 oz. to 20 oz. a pair—Pierced and beaded snuffer pans, 4 oz. to 5 oz. each.

An extensive variety of elegant pillar silver table candlesticks, from the latest designs and models, from 14 oz. to 20 oz. a pair—Silver handled knives and forks, 24. to 101. a set.

Beaded, threaded, engraved, and plain polished spoons, forks, tureen ladles, skewers, &c. &c.
Ladies and Gentlemen fancy fur buckles, of the most approved and genteel patterns.

N. B. The strongest plated goods, in general, and the largest discount allowed, from the first House in Sheffield; fine and common Jewellery, ivory table knives and forks, bronze kitchens, knife cases, &c. &c.

The greatest price always given, for old gold, silver, diamonds, pearls, watches, &c.
Five shillings and five pence allowed for old silver in exchange for new goods.

COALS of the best Quality, at 30s. per Chaldron, 12 sacks, containing 39 bushels in each Chaldron, for Ready Money, all measured under the inspection of sworn Measurers, delivered, Carriage free, to any part of the Town, and in the Country at 1s. per mile extra off the stones. The Advertisers having received a large quantity from their Connections at Newcastle, enables them to deliver the very best Coals at the above low price; inferior sorts cheaper.—Orders directed to Messrs. ROBINSON and Co. to be left at Mr. Bolton's, Engraver, the corner of the South Gate of the Royal Exchange, in Cornhill, will be duly attended to.

ANTIQUITIES.
This Day were Published (under the inspection of the Author) Elegantly Printed on a fine Imperial Paper, the **VIEWS** beautifully engraved by Capital Artists, Vol. I. II. and III. corrected, with great Additions, of the **ANTIQUITIES** of England and Wales:
Being a Collection of Views of the most remarkable ruins and ancient buildings, accurately drawn on the Spot. To each View is added, an historical account of its situation, when and by whom built, with every interesting circumstance relative thereto. Collected from the best Authorities.
The Views according to each definition, are arranged in alphabetical order to their counties.
Gentlemen and Ladies who intend to purchase this work, and are desirous of having fine Impressions, are most respectfully requested to apply to the Publisher, Bookellers either in Town or Country, or to the Publisher.

Such as prefer taking it in, in Numbers, may begin with No. I. and have them delivered weekly, once a fourth night, or monthly.
Printed for S. Hooper, No. 212, High Holborn; and Sold by G. Robinson, Paternoster-Row, and by all the Bookellers in Great Britain and Ireland. Of whom may be had,
The Supplement to the Large Quarto Edition of the above work, No. I. to XV.

Of S. Hooper may also be had, just Published, **THE ORACLE, or COMPLETE FORTUNE TELLER:** a Pack of Cards, by the use of which, any person may in an instant of time have their Fortune told; and become adepts in this science. By the Royal Physician, who has for a length of time entertained and astonished all parts of Europe, and is now in London. A new Edition, price 2s. (Entered at Stationer's Hall, and who ever pirates them will be prosecuted at the said office).

IL SENTIMENTAL, or CONVERSATION CARDS, consisting of Fifty-six Subjects, neatly engraved on Copper: designed for the improvement and instruction of the mind. These Cards will afford the most agreeable amusement, and at the same time greatly tend to the improvement of youth, by giving them a habit of thinking, and also of speaking extempore, with method, on any subject that may arise, exercising thereby their invention, and affording those of abilities with means of displaying them.

A New, correct, and beautiful PEEAGE OF ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, and IRELAND. Including all the late Creations; with Plates of the Four Orders of Knighthood.

This Day was published, Dedicated to his Royal Highness George Prince of Wales, Embellished with a fine Medalion of his present Majesty, and an elegant Vignette of the Regalia of the Crown of Great Britain: drawn by Millar, and engraved by Angus.

(Price 6s. in 4ds: 7s. 6d. Calc. gilt; and 9s. in Morocco.) **FIELDING'S NEW PEEAGE OF ENGLAND, SCOTLAND and IRELAND**, from the Conquest to the present Time: containing a correct account of all the Nobility of the three Kingdoms, with their Coats of arms, Crests and Supporters, elegantly engraved on more than thirty copper-plates, by Messrs. Woodman, Mulrover, Darling and Robinson, with their Quarterings, and Mottos translated, their Family Names, the Time they severally became entitled to their honours, what Titles they now bear, their Ages, Marriages, and the Ages and Names of their Children whether married or single, and who are presumptive Heirs to the Title. Correct Lists of all the Titles conferred by his present Majesty, and those which have since become extinct. General Lists of the extinct Peers of the three kingdoms. Lists of the Knights of the Garter, Thistle, Bath and St. Patrick, with the names of their Infants; their Collars, Badges and Stars beautifully engraved: And a comprehensive Introduction to Heraldry; with a Plate of the Crown of Great Britain; Coronets of the Prince of Wales and those of the Blood Royal. Dukes, Earls, Marquises, and Barons Coronets; Bishops's Mitre; and many other heraldic Figures: To which are added, Regal Tables of the genealogical Descendants of all the sovereign Princes of Europe, their Titles, Successions, Descents; Intermarriages and issue, with the Situation, Extent, Antiquities, and Number of Inhabitants of each respective State, as well as the Revenue of each Sovereign; embellished with a Map of Europe, and an elegant Vignette of the Imperial Crown of Germany.

Printed for John Fielding, No. 23, Paternoster-Row.
* * * Mr. FIELDING, highly sensible of the many obligations he is already under to the Nobility, for their kind communications and patronage, most humbly solicits their future favours, addressed to him at his House in Paternoster-Row; and that they may not be imposed upon by a spurious Edition, now circulating, under his name, gives this public notice, that every genuine copy of the NEW PEEAGE is signed in his own hand-writing at the end of the Contents.

In the Press, and in a few Days will be published, In Five Volumes, price 15s. sewed, *Right hands addressed by permission,*
To his Royal Highness the PRINCE OF WALES, And dedicated also, by permission, to His Grace the DUKE OF MONTAGUE, AN APOLOGY FOR THE LIFE

GEORGE ANNE BELLAMY
Late of Covent-Garden Theatre.
WRITTEN BY HERSELF.

To which will be annexed, the Original Letter to JOHN CALCRAFT, Esq. advertised to be published in October 1787, but which was then violently suppressed.
"The web of our life is a mingled yarn, good and ill together;
"our virtues would be proud, if our faults whipt them not;
"and our crimes would despair, if they were not sheltered
"by our virtues."

Such persons as are disposed to favour the Author with their subscriptions, previous to publication, are entreated to send their instructions to Miss Bellamy, No. 19, Duke-street, St. James's; or to J. Bell, at the British Library, in the Strand, by whom the work will be published, and delivered to the Subscribers.

Four volumes of FARCES, with elegant Frontispieces, are also now first published as a Supplement to BELL'S BRITISH THEATRE, comprising fifty-seven of the best and most modern FARSES and ENTERTAINMENTS now performing on the British stage, which would cost Two Guineas and 2 Half, if purchased in any other way, although they are now sold at Three Shillings per volume, sewed, at the British Library in the Strand; where may be had also, the most valuable Collection of ENGLISH PLAYS that has ever been printed, viz.

BELL'S BRITISH THEATRE, In twenty-one volumes, consisting of one hundred and five of the most esteemed English Plays and Operas, elegantly printed, complete, and correct, as the authors left them; besides being adapted to the use of the Theatre, by the mode of printing, which distinguishes the variations observed on the stage, each play is enriched with a dramatic Print, representing the most favoured performers in some spirited scene; they are all depicted from life, and compose a very capital collection of animated prints. The plays, with the prints, are sold at One Shilling each on royal paper, with Proof Impressions of the Characters; or Sixpence when printed on common paper. The sets complete may be had from Three Guineas to Twelve Guineas per set, in proportion to the elegance of the binding.—TRAVELLING CASES to contain the whole, in the form of a folio volume, are sold at One Guinea each.

ALL Persons who are any Ways indebted to the Estate of Fills, the late Henry Shoe-maker, in St. Clement's Church-yard, are requested by the Executors to pay the same immediately into the hands of his Son James Fills, who is authorized by them to receive the same; and all Persons having any Claim or Demand are also desired to send in their accounts.

The Trade is carried on as usual by his Son, who humbly solicits his Father's Friends and Customers for the Continuance of their favours.

To the **LADIES.**
WINTER CLOAKS, MUFFS, the FUR TRIMMINGS. Messrs. Smeaton and Co. at the Three Pigeons and Sceptre, No. 173, Fleet-street, opposite Sergeant's-Inn, having laid in an Assortment of beautiful coloured and white Satins, previous to the Advance upon Silk Goods taking Place, are determined they shall be sold (this Season only) without Advance. By this Circumstance they are enabled to sell handsome Cloaks trimmed with Fur for 21. 12s. 6d. which would otherwise be 31.—the 41. 4s. Pelefs, only 31. 12s. 6d.—the 51. 5s. ditto, only 41. 14s. 6d. and in Proportions. Ladies will please to remark, we have a large Assortment of white and coloured Satin Cloaks constantly made by us, trimmed with Foxes, both red and white Sable, Squirrel, &c. &c. Also, Mode Cloaks, from 16s. trimmed to 51. 5s.

We have also to recommend our A-la-modes for Cloaks, Hats, and Bonnets, which for beauty and wear are not to be equalled in Town, and are sold at the reduced Prices.

In order to give our numerous Friends every possible Advantage, we have engaged with a Furrier in the importing and making our own Furs, Muffs, &c. from which Circumstance we are enabled to sell the Articles from Ten to Twenty per cent. cheaper than most Shops in Town.

Good Not Gouzes 10d. per Yard, 9s. 6d. per Dozen; Grape Gouzes 12d. per Yard, 11s. 6d. per Dozen; Ribbons at the old Prices; Goats-head Muffs from 21. 2s. to 41. 4s. each.

Ladies who have Orders from their Country Friends will find a material Advantage by applying as above.
N. B. Yard-wide Italian Tiffines, at 18s. and 22s. per Yard; Ell-wide ditto, at 22s. 6d. and 25s. per Yard; Yard-wide white and black Crapes, 2s. 6d. and 3s. per Yard; Narrow ditto, from 1s. to 15s. 6d. per Yard.

LADIES and GENTLEMENS GREAT COATS, &c.
R. CROFT, Taylor, Habit-Maker, and Draper, at his wholesale and retail warehouse, No. 63, the corner of Bell-in-Tin Inn, Fleet-street, most respectfully begs leave to acquaint the Public in general, that he is now selling Ladies Italian Coats, either loose or to fit the shape, and Gentlemen's Great Coats, the best and cheapest ever yet offered to the Public, at the following reduced Prices, viz.

A Lady's Bath Beaver Italian Great Coat	1. 5. d.
A fine ditto, from 21s. to	0 16 0
A thinner sort ditto	1 6 0
A superfine ditto	1 9 0
A Silezia stripe ditto, from 21s. to	2 0 0
A duffel ditto, from 21s. to	1 15 0
Young Ladies and Childrens Great Coats, from 12s. to	1 15 0
A Riding Habit, best superfine Ladies Cloth, and a Muslinet Waistcoat, complete	4 10 0

GENTLEMENS GREAT COATS.
A Man's Beaver Surtout Coat 0 10 6
A fine ditto, from 12s. to 0 18 0
A superfine ditto 1 1 0
A fine thin Beaver ditto 2 1 0
A Silezia stripe ditto, from 16s. to 1 10 0
A Drab Cloth ditto 1 10 0
A fine ditto, from 16s. to 1 14 0
A superfine ditto, from 36s. to 2 2 0

Boys Great Coats proportionably cheap.
GENTLEMENS SUITS, &c.
A Frock Suit of best superfine Cloth, complete 4 10 0
A Coat and Waistcoat 3 13 0
A single Coat ditto 2 10 0
Ditto lapelled ditto, with silver plated buttons 2 18 0
A superfine elastic Cloth Coat 2 10 0
A Satin Florentine Waistcoat, from 18s. to the very best 1 8 0
Ditto Breeches, from 16s. to ditto 1 16 0
A pair of Tabinet Breeches, either Black, Buff, or Drab colour, an article entirely new, that will neither stain with acid, or fade by washing or wear 1 0 0

LIVERIES.
A Livery Suit, all cloth 3 3 0
Ditto, with Shag Breeches 3 12 0
A Thicket Coat and Waistcoat 2 2 0
A Fustian ditto, from 30s. to 2 0 0
A Khap Duffel Jacket and Waistcoat, from 18s. to 2 2 0
Every article of the above warranted of the best materials and workmanship.

A variety of Gentlemen's Dressing Gowns.
A great choice of his new-Satins and much improved Dresses for Children.
A reasonable Allowance made to Merchants, Country-Shopkeepers, and Tailors, who buy to sell again.

N. B. A LADY'S RIDING DRESS, OR A GENTLEMANS SUIT OF CLOTH, MADE AT SIX HOURS NOTICE.

SHIPS reported at the Custom-House.
DECEMBER 31st, 1784.
Emperor.—Rowland Craigie, from Ostend.
Union.—William Smith, from Amsterdam.

Ships Lost or Damaged.
Catherine Vickerman, of Hull, lost on Sledsden Point, it is believed part of the cargo will be saved.
Eatonprize, Wills, from Memel to Hull, is lost upon Sandhammer.
Orpheus, Squarrey, from Petersburg to Liverpool is put into Fairford in Norway, and will be obliged to discharge the cargo to repair.
Mary, Gerdruth, Klinkpoor from Petersburg to Lubbeck is stranded near Grooms, 3 leagues from Travismunde.
Neutrality, Nichol, that was on shore near Christiansa, got off without much damage.
Emanuel, Holmstrand, from Leghorn to the coast of Spainand London, is lost at Palamos; the crew saved.
Lucy, Bobemia, from London to Venice, was lost near that part; best part of the crew saved.

Ships Arrived.
Prince of Orange, Melbeck, Dunkirk, river.
Britannia, Leitchman, Oporto, ditto.
Nymphen, Conn, Maryland, Plymouth.
Ephraim, Dobson, } London, at Cadiz.
Charlotte, Bebell, }
Hawke, Eab, Lisbon, Dartmouth.
St. Georges, Williamson, } London, Lisbon.
Tagus, Innis
Hortengann, Hellman, Land, Dunkirk.
COURSE OF THE EXCHANGE,
LONDON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1784.

Amsterdam	37 3
Ditto at sight	37 5 1/2 uf.
Rotterdam	No price.
Antwerp	34 9 1/2 uf.
Hamburg	34 9 1/2 uf.
Alena	34 9 1/2 uf.
Paris, 1 day's date	28
Ditto, 2 ufance	28
Bordeaux ditto	28
Cadiz	34
Madrid	34
Bilboa	34
Leghorn	47
Genoa	44
Venice	46
Lisbon	55 2 1/2
Porto	55 2 1/2
Dublin	9 1/2

Per O U N C E.
Gold in Coin, 31 17s 10d.
Ditto in Bars, 31 17s 10d.
Pil. Pes of Eight, 5s 1d.
Ditto Small, 5s 1d.
Mexico, 5s 1d.
Ditto New, 5s 1d.
Sil. in Brit Stand. 5s 2d.

Prices of Corn at Mark Lane, per Quarter.
Wheat, 38s a 45s
Rye, 25s a 25s
Bailey, 22s a 27
Oats, 15s a 20s

PRICE OF COALS.
There was no business done yesterday at the Coal-Exchange: the price, therefore, of coals delivered to housekeepers, continues from 40 shillings to two guineas.

PRICE OF STOCKS.	
Bank Stock, - - -	112 1/2
India Stock, - - -	136 1/2
Suez Canal ditto, -	104 1/2
Ditto Amnity, - - -	104 1/2
Ditto New, - - -	104 1/2
3 per Ct Bk. red., -	104 1/2
3 per Ct ditto confol., -	104 1/2
Ditto, - - -	104 1/2
3 per Ct Ann. 1751, -	104 1/2
3 per Ct India Bonds, -	104 1/2
4 per Ct Ann. 1780, -	104 1/2
5 per Ct Nav. & C. Ann. 90, -	104 1/2
Bank Loan, An. Ys. Pur. Shut, -	104 1/2
HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE,	
This day, at 35 minutes after 6 in the morning; and 24 after 6 in the afternoon.	
On Sunday, at 13 minutes after 7 in the morning; and 33 minutes after 7 in the afternoon.	

To the Editor of the UNIVERSAL REGISTER.

SIR,
THOUGH the usefulness and necessity of newspapers must be admitted; yet how incoherent and pernicious have several of them been! What heterogeneous mixtures have they set before the public! A newspaper may be considered—as a political falmagundy, or a feast furnished to suit every palate.

The philosopher and divine, the man of taste and of literature, statesmen and politicians, ladies, traders, players, pugilists, and persons of almost every description may find in it both pleasure and profit.—To these agreeable vehicles of conveyance, commerce, manufactures, arts, sciences, and freedom stand eminently indebted: nor can it be denied, that the lovers of illiberal invective and abuse, the destroyers of reputation, and feeders on calumny, have sometimes been fully gratified in certain prints which may be termed "Schools of Scandal."

Should we speak of newspapers in a political way; have they not frequently, in half a column, given us the state of all nations; maintained the balance of power in Europe; threw to rival monarchs their true interests, or pointed out to them the line of conduct they should follow? Have they not, also, told us the sentiments and resolves even of interior cabinets;—thrown open to readers the door of the privy council; prophesied concerning coalitions, or exposed the most secret connexions and designs? Have they not, likewise, occasionally stigmatized, or white-washed contending parties; entertaining us, at the same time, with the most forcible and elegant fustianian harangues, and make the wisest observations upon them?

Can as much be said for any other publications, great or small? What honour and profit, therefore, do the different authors and intelligences who figure in these fugitive pieces deserve?—Hence it may be inferred, that an editor is a man of the first consequence in the republic of letters;—equal, at least, to any theatrical manager. Has he not, like the latter, to furnish a pleasing variety, to hold the balance even between rival individuals? Must not his entertainments be according to nature; nay, must he not occasionally throw about his quibs and crackers to please air balloon politicians; or, as it were, have writers of tumbling—wire dancing—and hurly burly description?

For these, and other reasons, too tedious to mention, an editor may be looked upon as a sort of literary watchman, who, though he may be unable to prevent the house from being robbed, yet can tell where a pin is loose;—or can cry—stop thief!—though unable to apprehend him.

This is not all; for he must select with care, lop off luxuriances, or discern with judgment and penetration.—As a spirited writer remarks, a Newspaper Editor is confined by the same rules with the historian, and should rest himself on truth and facts.

While decency and moderation are preserved, sentiment and spirit must be maintained; men and measures represented as they really are.

These particulars will show, that to conduct a newspaper with propriety, is an arduous task: to give it consequence and success—will require unremitting attention.

The *Universal Register*, it is expected, will be carried on to the satisfaction of an impartial public. Its plan being liberal and comprehensive,—masters who want servants—or servants masters;—traders, who wish to buy or sell goods;—the fair, whether maids or widows, who fight for husbands and help-mates;—in a word, all sorts and sizes, denominations and descriptions of men, have nothing to do but to advertise in the *Universal Register*—and they will immediately hear of something to their advantage.

Much has been said in praise of public prints in general. Even rhetoric and eloquence have been pressed into their service.—It has been said—that the *four winds* (the initials of which make up the word *news*), are not so capricious, or liable to change as our public intelligencers. On Monday there is a whisper—on Tuesday, a rumour—on Wednesday, a conjecture—on Thursday, a probable—on Friday, a positive—on Saturday, a premature.

Thus are our hopes for five days increased, till the sixth compliments us with a disappointment. Still, however, the defects of newspapers bear no proportion to their beauties. They may be termed caricatures calculated to hit the common and unbounded prejudices of society.

One person's affection lies in the price of stocks, and in the arrival of the East and West India fleets; another's in a dreadful battle either by sea or land, in which he can enjoy the carnage, free from danger; a third delights in curious anecdotes, a fourth in scandalous reports, a fifth in horse races and jockeyship, a sixth in theatrical intelligence, and a seventh in the poet's corner—*crim. con.* &c.

Thus is a newspaper a magazine or toy shop, where every one has his hobby-horse.—Thus, likewise, all capacities and dispositions are periodically furnished with information and amusement.

GREGORY GAZETTE.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. SPURRIER,
At Garraway's Coffee-house, Change-Alley, Cornhill,
(By Order of the Executors)
On Thursday the 12th of January, at 12 o'clock,
In Two Lots.

LOT I. A LEASEHOLD ESTATE, most advantageously situated No. 106, in High Holborn. Consisting of an excellent roomy, convenient brick Dwelling House, in good repair, with spacious Shop and Duffellery, and a vacant Piece of Ground behind, about 36 feet by 30, difficultly communicating with the Street. The whole late in the occupation of
Mr. JOHN GUNBE, Distiller, Deceased.
The Premises are held for 21 Years from Christmas 1780, at a Rent of only 18l. per Annum; are exceedingly well planned for beneficial dispatch in the above business, in which they have been used a great number of years, and immediate possession of the said premises and trade may be had.

LOT II. A ROOMY EXCELLENT BRICK DWELLING HOUSE, with Workshop and Yard, adjoining the above, No. 107, late in the possession of Mr. SIMMONS, Salesman, at Sixty-four Pounds per Annum. Term unexpired 17 Years, at only 33l. per Annum.
To be viewed Six Days prior to the Sale. When printed Particulars may be had on the Premises, and of Mr. SPURRIER, Cophthall-Court, Throgmorton-street; and at Garraway's.

WORCESTERSHIRE.
To be sold by PRIVATE CONTRACT,
By Mr. SPURRIER,
Together or separately.

A Very extensive and capital FREEHOLD ESTATE, comprising about Four Thousand Acres of exceeding fine old enclosed meadow, pasture, arable and woodland; the greatest part very fine, the remainder subject only to small Modurges; with the
MANOR OF BESLEY, which is well stocked with game, and extends over the whole parish; situate about ten miles from Birmingham, six from Birmingham, eight from Alcester, and four from Henley in Arden; all very considerable market towns; the yearly value
TWO THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED POUNDS.

The whole estate lies within a ring fence, is exceedingly well farmed, the tenants very substantial and respectable, and the rents are exceedingly moderate.
The Perpetual Advowson belongs to, and is to be sold with the estate.

Joseph Robinson of Besley-Hall will show the estate; for further particulars apply to Mr. Kiernan, Gray's Inn; Mr. Spurrier, Cophthall-Court, Throgmorton-street; and Mr. Charles Henry Hunt, Stratford-upon-Avon.

By Mr. RIDGEWAY,
On Friday the 14th of January,
At Garraway's Coffee-house, Exchange-Alley, Cornhill,
At Twelve o'clock.

A LEASEHOLD ESTATE, Consisting of a well-built Brick Dwelling-house, three Stories high, with four Rooms on the first Floor, a Gentle Drawing-room, and two Parlours, fitted up in a neat manner. A fore Court, and Garden behind, inclosed with Brick Walls, and clothed with choice Fruit-trees; a Coach-house and stabling for two Horses, pleasantly situated at Kingland, in the road to Newington, now in the possession of
Mr. GLANVILLE, at 30l. per annum.

Also, a small Brick Dwelling-house, containing six Rooms, and a small Garden situated at the back of the Bull Inn, let to Messrs Ward and Cox at 9l. 15s. per annum.

The Premises are in good repair and abound with Conveniences, pleasantly situated in a Genteel Neighbourhood a small distance from Town. The Roads are watched and lighted in Winter, and watered in Summer, which renders it perfectly secure, safe and agreeable; and Stage-coaches go and return every hour.

The whole of the above Premises are held for an unexpired Term of 41 Years from Christmas last, subject to a Rent of 8l. per annum.

To be viewed by Tickets, which may be had of Mr. Ridgeway. Also printed Particulars at the place of Sale, on the Premises, and in Fenchurch-street.

By Mr. BROWN,
At his Sale Warehouse, George-Yard, Lombard-street,
On Friday the 7th of January, 1785, at 11 o'clock,
A Very valuable assortment of Mercery,
Linen-draperies, Hosiery, and Haberdashery, all in the very best condition.

Consisting of
Green & orange silk shaggs
Yard-wide South-willets
Ditto mulin cords
Dixie's quilting
Marbled quilting
Half ell printed jeans
Yard-wide Tangles
Mens and womens black & white and coloured silk hose
30 dozen worsted ribb'ds
30 dozen mens military hats
Which may be viewed on Thursday next to the time of Sale; and Catalogues may be had of
JOSEPH BROWN, Sworn Broker.

By Mr. BROWN,
On the Premises, No. 15, St. Martin's Lane, Cannon-Street, on Thursday, January 13, 1785, and the following day, at Twelve o'clock, by Order of the Executor of
Mr. WM. DE GERSEY, Merchant, deceased.

THE valuable LEASE of the convenient DWELLING-HOUSE, Counting-house, &c. in excellent repair, (suitable for the immediate reception of a Merchant, or any other genteel Family) together with the Household Furniture, Plate, Linen, China, Books, fine old Red Port, and various other Effects. To be viewed and valued Wednesday the 12th instant, and to the time of Sale.
Catalogues and Particulars may be had of Mr. Brown, Broker and Auctioneer, George-Yard, Lombard-Street.

By THOMAS GRIFFITH,
On the Premises, on Monday the 3d Day of January, at Eleven o'clock, by Order of the Assignees of Mr. Edward Wilton, Carpenter, a Bankrupt, at his Work-shop near the Surrey New Road, Black-friths-Bridge.

ALL his Stock of Deals, Battens, Work-benches, and Tools; a handsome Front-piece, with turned Columns and Pilasters, with ornamental Caps, Bases, and Friezes.

Also, at One o'clock will be Sold all his Stock and other Effects, at his Yard and Premises near the Grange Road, Bermondsey; comprising Deals, Battens, Quarter-log-poles, and Rails, a Chaise, a Cart, some Harness, Hay, and other Effects.

At the same Time will be Sold the Lease of the above Yard and Premises, with a Field and Garden, and the Improvements made on the same are held for a Term of Years at a low Rent.

May be viewed on Saturday, when Catalogues may be had on the Premises, and of Mr. GARRATT, Sworn Exchange-broker, Red-cross-Street, Southwark.

Sales by Auction.

By THOMAS GRIFFITH,
On the Premises, on Monday the 17th of January, 1785, and following days, at Eleven o'clock, by order of the Executors;

ALL the neat and elegant Household Furniture, Side-board of Plate, containing about 700 Ounces; Watches, Jewels, Rings, Medals, and old Coins; Household and Table Linen, useful and ornamental China, Library of Books, choice Wines, Surgical Instruments, fine Paintings, some of which are by celebrated Masters; and other Valuable Effects of
THOMAS SMITH, Esq. deceased.
late Senior Surgeon of St. Thomas's Hospital; at his late Dwelling-house, on the Terrace at Camberwell, in the County of Surrey.

May be viewed on Friday the 14th, and until the Sale, when Catalogues may be had on the Premises, and of Mr. GARRATT, Sworn Exchange-broker, Red-cross-Street, Southwark.

By Mr. ELDERTON,
(By Order of the Assignees)
On Wednesday next the 5th inst.

THE neat and genuine Household Furniture, Linen, Plate, and China; a very fine painted Harpsichord; of Mr. FOX, Glover, late of Cornhill, Bankrupt, removed for the convenience of Sale to No. 49, Leithbury. Consisting of exceeding good Goose feather-beds and bedding, Mahogany Wardrobe, double and single chests of drawers, large pier and other Looking-glasses, Wilton and Scotch carpets, Mahogany chairs, horse-hair seats; exceeding good sets, Tea China with good Kitchen Furniture.

Sales by Candle.
At GARRAWAY'S Coffee-house, in Change-Alley, Cornhill,
On Wednesday, the 5th of January, at Five o'clock in the Afternoon.

THE following GOODS, viz.
100 Hogheads TOBACCO,
Catalogues of which will be timely delivered by
GOODWIN and COLES, Sworn Brokers.

At GARRAWAY'S Coffee-house, in Exchange-Alley, Cornhill,
On Thursday, the 6th of January, at Five o'clock in the Afternoon.

THE following GOODS, viz.
40 Casks CAROLINA INDIGO,
30 Bales COTTON,
20 Casks COFFEE, Certificate complete, for Home Consumption.
Catalogues of which will be timely delivered by
GOODWIN and COLES, Sworn Brokers.

At BATSON'S Coffee-house, in Cornhill,
On Tuesday, the 11th of January, 1785, at Five o'clock, in the Afternoon.

THE following GOODS, viz.
About 200 barrels fresh Lin— Just landed from Riga, seed
About 100 ditto in Bags } lying at Iron Gate Wharf,
And other Goods,
Of which Catalogues and further Particulars will be delivered by
WELBANK, SHARP, and BROWN, Sworn Brokers, Sm-Court, Threadneedle-street.

At GARRAWAY'S Coffee-house, Exchange-Alley, Cornhill,
On Thursday 12th of January, 1785, at Five o'clock in the Afternoon.

THE following GOODS, viz.
65 Bags Tobacco and Grenada Cotton Wool
30 Bags Smyrna ditto
30 Casks Coffee, Certificate complete for Home Consumption
20 Casks Cocoa, ditto ditto
50 Bags
50 Bags black Ginger
6 ditto white ditto
550 Logs and Planks Pencil Cedar
150 ditto ditto Mahogany
And other Goods,
Catalogues of which will be timely delivered by
WM. PURDY, Broker, No. 86, Tower-street.

In about TEN DAYS.
For ACCOUNT of the UNDERWRITERS.
ABOUT 140 Tons of old Sable and
Captain Wilkinson, lost near Gottenburg.
Also sundry Ships Stores, consisting of Sails, Cables, Anchors, &c. saved out of the Trident, Captain Robert Galilee, lost near Aldborough.

Catalogues will be timely delivered by
ROWLAND RICHARDSON, Broker.

At the HAMBRO' Coffee-house, Water-lane, Tower-Street,
On Thursday the 6th Jan. 1785, at 12 o'clock at noon.

THE following GOODS, viz.
167 Hogheads SUGAR
To be seen from Wednesday to the time of Sale at the Broker's, No. 20, Harp-Lane, Tower-street, where Catalogues may be had, and at the place of Sale.

PAULHAN and BLACHE, Brokers.

For Sale by PRIVATE CONTRACT.
The good Brigantine YOUNG SABINE.
A MOST extraordinary swift Sailer, Plantation built, Burthen 140 Tons, more or less, copper-sheathed in this River, is a very excellent Vessel for any Trade that requires Expedition; would make an excellent Packet, and is capable of mounting 16 guns six-pounders—is extraordinary well-built, and is the only Vessel that made a Passage from Malaga this Season, now lying at Fiddle-heriog Stairs, Henry M'Log, Commander.

For Inventories and other Particulars, please to apply to
THOMAS HUBBERT, Broker.

WANTS A PLACE,
A YOUNG MAN, about twenty years of age, as Footman in a small family, or single gentleman, either in or out of livery; and as he has been used to travail, will have no objection to go abroad with either; can shave and dress hair, and speaks the French language tolerably well, and understands the care of horses, and every other qualification becoming a servant; and can be well recommended from his last place for honesty, sobriety, and cleanliness and carefulness, &c.

For enquiry please to direct to R. B. at Mr. Sandhurst's, hair-dresser, No. 1. James-Kreet, Hay-market.

WANTS A PLACE,
A YOUNG WOMAN as COOK, in a small genteel family; has no objections to go abroad; can have an undeniable character from a respectable family where she now lives.—For particulars, a line directed to A. Z. at Mr. Pearce's, newsmen, No. 9, Bell-Yard, Temple-Bar, shall be attended to.

TO LET. small Lodgings Genteely Furnished, for a Single Gentleman, in a house where there are no children. Enquire at No. 6, Staple Inn Buildings, Middle-Row, Holborn.

To LET, or the LEASE to be SOLD,
OF a convenient HOUSE and SPACIOUS VAULTS (at a low Rent) in which upwards of One Hundred Pounds of Rent may be bonded, within ten minutes walk of the Royal Exchange and Custom-House; possession may be had immediately.
For Particulars enquire of Mr. Jof. Brown, No. 10, George Yard, Lombard-Street.

To be LET, in a Genteel situation, on reasonable terms a commodious, safe and airy apartment, for a small family. Enquire of S. Z. at the publisher of this paper, or of Mr. Eldridge, glazier, No. 5, Aldermanbury.
N. B. May be entered on immediately.

TRAVELLING.
A GENTLEMAN, a native of England, of a noble family, and who has visited the principal Courts of Europe, is well known to several of his Majesty's Ministers abroad, and speaks French, German, Italian, and Spanish, wishes to attend on any Nobleman or Gentleman on the Continent, and flatters himself to make it the more acceptable in point of education, instruction, and manner, as he is further well known to several distinguished families abroad, particularly in Italy, where he promises himself with meeting an honourable reception, and that his character stands favourable wherever he has been.

* * * Those persons whom these proposals may suit, are requested to send a line to Mr. A. B. at the Printing-Office of this Paper, and they will be immediately waited upon with every satisfactory information.

TO GOVERNESSES, PARENTS, and TEACHERS.
This Day is published, Price 1s. 6d.
A Dramatic Original, entitled
THE GOVERNESS; or, THE BOARDING-SCHOOL DISSECTED. Wherein are exposed, in Dramatic Order, the Errors in the present Mode of Female Education, and a Method of correcting them, in order to form the Mind and improve the Understanding.

Delightful task! to rear the tender thought,
To teach the young idea how to shoot,
To pour the fresh instruction o'er the mind,
To breathe the enlivening spirit, and to fix
The generous purpose in the glowing breast.

Printed for the Author, and sold by F. Newbery, St. Paul's Church-yard; and H. D. Symonds, Stationers-court, Ludgate-street.

TO THE FAIR SEX.
MECKLENBURG and RUSSIAN CLOAKS and LEVEES.

A Number of Ladies there are, whose tender and delicate constitutions, will not permit them to take proper exercise in the Winter season, neither by walking nor riding, for want of proper warmth of covering, which nourishes the body almost equal to food; and as health is the first blessing human nature enjoys, under God, how careful should we endeavour to preserve to valuable a blessing; and for its preservation,
BRYANT, at No. 77, CHISWELL-STREET.

Some time since invented Mecklenburg Cloaks for Ladies, which merited the approbation of a great number of ladies of distinction, whom the proprietor hath had the honour to serve. They are made of fine Bath Beaver, are light, warm, and convenient, have a general and pleasing appearance, and are put on and off with as much ease as a common cloak. Ladies may be measured, and have them made to their liking, from 25s. to Three Guineas each.

Likewise all sorts of Ladies Riding Great Coats made in every manner, described. Plain Bath Beaver Cloaks, at 8s. 6s. 10s. 12s. 14s. 16s. 18s. 20s. and 22s. to Three Pounds each, all proportionably cheap, according to their different sizes and qualities, for ready money only. Town or Country Shopkeepers supplied, with good Allowance to sell again.

TO THE MASTER-PRINTERS.
A PERSON who is thoroughly conversant with the Printing Business, as well in the practice as theory, but whose more immediate province it has been, for upwards of twenty years, to conduct the business, and correct for the press, (both of which he has done with credit at one of the first offices in London,) would be glad of a situation under that character, to attend daily from the hours of ten to one, and from three to five.—A line directed for W. H. at No. 33, Paternoster-Row, will be duly answered.

EXEMPTION from PARISH OFFICES.
To be disposed of, a Certificate which will discharge the Holder thereof from all Parish Offices in the Parish of Christ Church, Spital-Fields, in the County of Middlesex.

For Particulars enquire of Mr. Collins, No. 18, Devonshire Street, Bishopsgate Street.

EDMUND FAWCETT,
PRINTER and BOOKSELLER,
SUCCESSOR to the late Mr. PASHAM (for whom he conducted business upwards of ten years) at No. 35, Shoe-maker Row, Broadway, Black-friths, begs leave to inform his Friends and the Public, that he is removing from his present Printing-Office in Glass-house Yard to Mr. Pasham's late premises, as aforesaid, where he flatters himself he shall be honoured with a continuance of those liberal favours he has hitherto experienced, and for which he returns most grateful thanks; assuring them, that no attention shall be wanting to fulfil, in the most perfect manner, the various matters committed to his care.—At the same time he solicits future favours, he cannot but request a tender attention to some scandalous reports, injurious to his character, propagated by unmerited enemies, till he had unweariedly, in a legal method, the cause why, and the names to the several persons will have thus vilely become his affidavits.

Black-friths, Jan. 1. 1785.
N. B. Copper-Plates neatly engraved and printed.

THE Lecturer of this Chapel respectfully gives Notice that his Course of Lectures on the TYPES and FIGURES of the OLD TESTAMENT will commence on Sunday Evening the 2d of Jan. 1785.—Evening Prayers begin precisely at 6 o'clock. Admission to the seats will be perfectly free; Ladies and Gentlemen, either personally or by their servants, will please to apply early in order to have choice of situation, the vergers having directions to accommodate them to their choice. A syllabus of the Lectures may be seen by subscribers in the vestry.

THRALE, Pastry and Kitchen Cook, Whitehall, begs leave to acquaint the Public, that he continues to serve Ladies and Gentlemen at his Soup-Rooms, as usual, with his much admired Mock-Turtle, Gravy, and other Soups, Barley Broth, &c. in the highest perfection; Families may also be supplied with any quantity.

Likewise Spruce Beer, by his Majesty's Royal Letters Patent, in the highest perfection, and at far more moderate price, of good Body and found Quality, the excellence of which is well known by those who have been in the Northern Colonies, and is now used by the first Families in this kingdom at their tables, being very grateful, and pleasant to the taste, and recommended by the Faculty, as the most excellent Antiscorbutic ever yet discovered. Sold in Stone Bottles, and sent to any part of the Town or Country.

ORANGE-STREET CHAPEL, LEICESTER-FIELDS.

THE DIS-
TAKE
VICTORIA
& ALBER
MUSEUM

LONDON:—Printed by JAMES FLEMING, PRINTING-HOUSE SQUARE, BLACKFRIARS; where Advertisements, Essays, Letters, and Articles of Intelligence will be taken in. Also at Mr. Searle, No. 55, Oxford-Street; Mr. Trollope, opposite the Admiralty; Mrs. Wilson, No. 45, Lombard-Street; Mr. Pratt's, No. 84, Wapping; and Mr. Stacey, No. 156, Reprinted with the Times of January 2 1785. at 200 Gray's Inn Road. London WC1X 8EZ

Journalist

Galleries

Spectacular continuity

The Golden Age of Anglo-Saxon Art
British Museum

The Art of the Architect
RIBA

John Varley / Michael "Angelo" Rooker
Victoria and Albert Museum

If we are to believe exhibition titles, the history of art would seem to be remarkably rich in golden ages, though oddly enough they emerge as what each school of individual artists works up to rather than what they sadly, inevitably decline from. The current show at the British Museum (staged in conjunction with the British Library until March 10) claims merely to represent The Golden Age of Anglo-Saxon Art, which it pinpoints as the century from 966 to 1066. The blurb of the book by the museum's director, David M. Wilson (not the catalogue this time) which fills in the background to the show by covering the whole history of Anglo-Saxon Art from the seventh century to the Norman Conquest (Thames and Hudson, £25) goes one step further by claiming that the whole period is "arguably the golden age of English art."

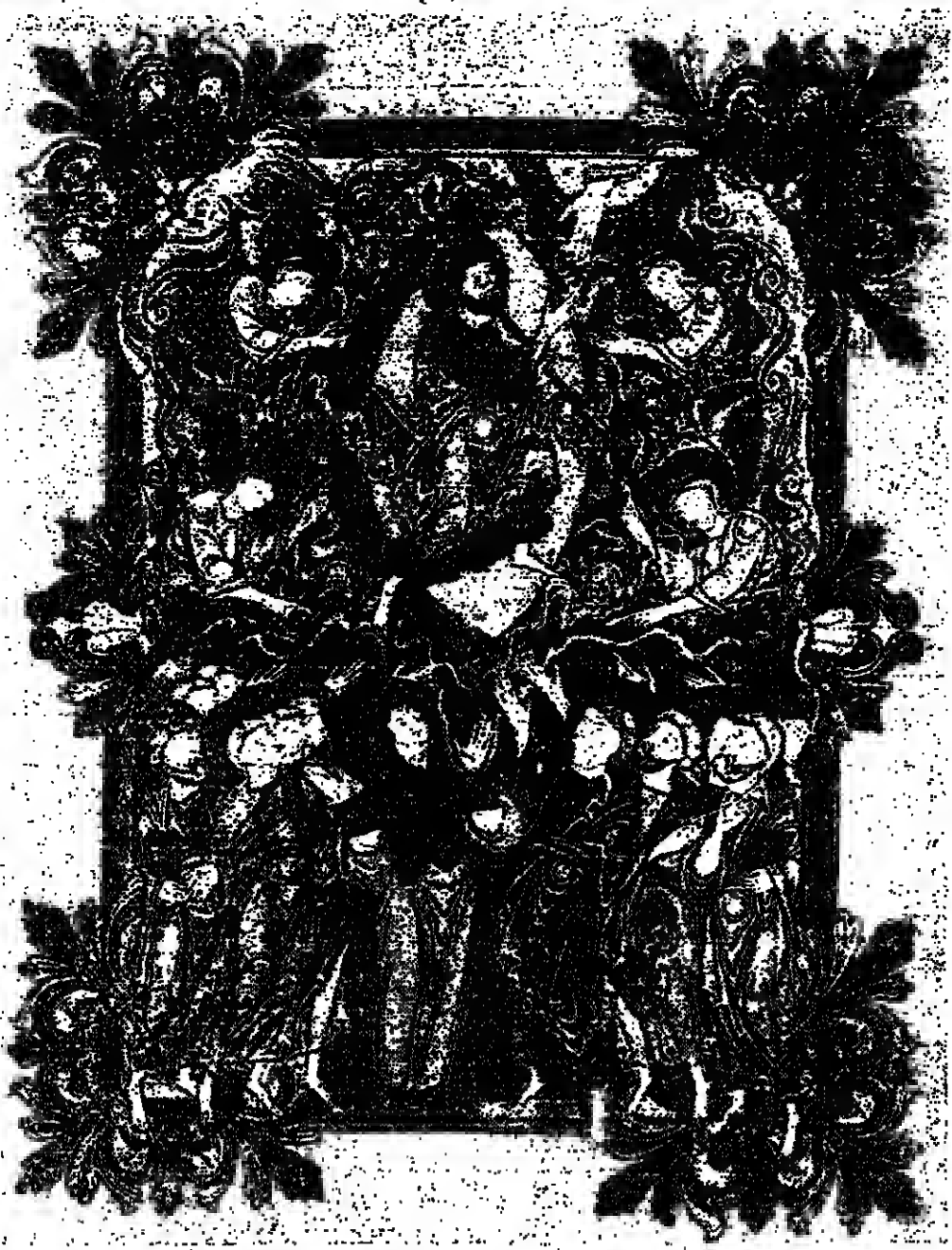
pretty spectacular in their own right. The show will inevitably be compared with the Hayward Gallery's 1966 show earlier in the year, being chronologically speaking what the movie-men call a prequel. But in fact it is very different in scale and intention.

This show is much more didactic, presenting a few masterpieces, especially of illumination and ivory carving, and trying to explain what they came from and to a certain extent what they led to. What the two shows taken together primarily tell us is how arbitrary the imagined great divide at 1066 actually is. The Normans and the Saxons were going much the same way artistically for some time before the Conquest, there was a lot of cultural interchange in the tenth and eleventh centuries, and the Saxons and Saxon ways were not instantly swept from the scene. In Britain, with the ascendancy of the Normans, on the contrary, many post-Conquest copies of pre-Conquest manuscripts and extensions of pre-Conquest styles in the present show indicate a powerful continuity, and we discover from Mr. Wilson's book that he regards even the Bayeux Tapestry as essentially English.

But the main purpose of the show, of course, is to point our attention towards a few well-known pieces, like the Albert Jewel, and many lesser known, presenting them as works of art, and requiring that they be judged as such. Some of them, like the *Benedictional of St. Aethelwald*, are not only very beautiful, but clearly sophisticated art. The pleasures to be derived from the smaller ivory and bone carvings are not quite on such a grand scale, but they certainly give us a new respect for the skills and aesthetic sense of our ancestors. In its sober, modest way, this show too is an eye-opener, well worth an hour of any art-lover's time.

A very few years ago, one could have claimed The Art of the Architect (at the RIBA until January 27) as an eye-opener too. Then it would have been in the most general sense: regard for the preparatory sketches of architects and designers, the projects and the perspective drawings, as artworks in themselves has been a relatively recent development. Now, owing largely to this country to the work of the RIBA itself at its Heinz Gallery, in Portman Square, we have gathered a very fair idea of the beauties possible in the genre, and of late the knowledge has been supplemented by similarly distinguished exhibitions at the AA (the Architectural Association) and the Institute of British Architects, and the Building Centre, not to mention several commercial galleries which have taken up the same line. The shows at the Heinz Gallery have just combed the surface of the RIBA's amazing collections of drawings and documents from members past and present; this present show, at the Institute's headquarters in Portland Place, sets out to give a wider but necessarily shallower notion of the treasures held in store.

The show comes right up to date with a 1984 design by the Richard Rogers partnership and another by an architect, Quinlan Terry, born in 1937. But of course the major excitement is historical. There are three drawings from the hand of Palladio himself (not, of course, actually an English architect, though so influential on English architecture that one is willing to overlook that minor mischance). There are Gothic and early Renaissance architects' drawings, and the collection really gets into its stride with Robert Smythson and Inigo Jones. From then on, it is not easy to think of any major British architect who is not somehow represented, from



Wren re-designing St Magnus the Martyr to Philip Tilden planning to use the present Selridge's store as the base merely for a gigantic windowless and presumably useless tower.

Not are the special skills of the professional draughtsman forgotten: men such as William Walcott (recently given a show to himself at the Building Centre) and Raymond Myrescough-Walker (ditto at the AA) were generally trained architects who devoted most of their talent to glorifying the work of other architects when, for

example, has Holden's London University Senate House looked half so splendid as in Myrescough-Walker's extraordinary floodlit perspective of it? But, as the show can reveal only a small part of the RIBA's holdings, so comment on it can only hint unless it is to become

Sophisticated beauty:
The Ascension of Christ from
The Benedictional of
St. Aethelwald

a list of names. It is something that has to be seen for itself, and, if it is no longer news to us that architects' drawings can be things of beauty, at least the RIBA's riches are truly amazing, and certainly whet our appetites for later, more specialized shows.

Neither John Varley nor Michael "Angelo" Rooker, the two artists yoked together in the Victoria and Albert's latest small show in the Henry Cole Building (until April 14), can be called an eye-opener or promoted as exemplifying the golden age of anything. The century covered by their combined lives - Rooker was born in 1743, Varley died in 1842 - did see most of the finest achievements of English water-colour, but they were both minor, though pleasing, companions to the really great and really famous.

Given that, however, there is much pleasure to be drawn from making their better acquaintance. Rooker drew, and then coloured, many a crisp, cool, clean townscape, very firmly grounded in the eighteenth century (he died in 1801) with hardly a glance forward to the Romantic future. Varley was more of a true water-colourist, sticking to the fairly wild and woolly in subject-matter and drawing inspiration from Poussin, Claude and (one would suspect from his habit of enhancing the scale of his central features and diminishing the peripheries) making quite lavish use of some optical device such as a close-glass. It is all eminently refined and quiet and English - good to be explored in more detail than hitherto, especially since the results have been enshrined in new V & A publications by C. M. Kauffman and Patrick Connor (Varley and Rooker respectively), £4.95 each at the exhibition.

John Russell Taylor

Television Kitchen sinks

A Christmas kitchen, too recently associated with over-indulgence, is a hazardous place in which to site a play to be shown immediately after Christmas. For his *Absurd Person Singular* (a title which still eludes me) on BBC1 last night, Alan Ayckbourn had not one kitchen but three. None was in the least festive: the first, pristine, mirroring its social-climbing owners' apprehension of inspection by their guests; the second, a slothful site for attempted suicides and general mayhem; the third, a setting for ultimate marital disillusion for two of the three couples involved.

It was supposed to be a comedy, and there were funny lines. Unfortunately these did not tread quickly enough upon one another's heels to distract one from the play's inordinate length.

Where the action - which purported to take place on the Christmas Eve before last, last Christmas Eve, and then next Christmas Eve - promised to be comic it tended to escalate into farce. Really none of the three ill-matched couples had much to laugh about or, as they were more or less disintegrating, to laugh at. It was a pity, for this stagey production had ensnared a first-class cast, all of whom will surely and deservedly have better things awaiting them in the course of the year.

Nicky Henson and Maureen Lipman were the first couple: he the bumptious tradesman, she the doorman wife. Michael Gambon and Cheryl Campbell were the promiscuous architect and pill-taking partner. The splendid Geoffrey Palmer and Prunella Scales were the bank manager and gin-swilling consort.

They did their best, admirable in the circumstances, in three kitchen encounters. I felt particularly sorry for Cheryl Campbell, who had to play out hers as a kind of Harpo Marx zombie making repeated attempts to kill herself in her overcrowded kitchen.

There was a fourth couple who were heard but not seen, which was a break for them. The credit titles were designed and drawn by Gerald Scarfe. These only served to raise a promise that was unfulfilled in the event. Let us hope Mr Ayckbourn returns to the study.

A hors-tout, for BBC1 and Scottish Television's programme controllers, BBC Scotland's New Year's Eve Live into 85 was a shambles in terms of content and production; Scottish Television's *The Hogmanay Show* ran it a close second. Maybe next time both could resolve to make their first footings with a little more imagination.

Richard Morrison

Dennis Hackett

As New York City Ballet entered its eighty-first home season, all seemed to be business as usual at Lincoln Center. Which, in the circumstances, was perhaps easier said than done.

This is the third season by the company George Balanchine built that has been undertaken without him. The first two could have succeeded, through the sheer shock of Balanchine's death emphasizing the impetus of his creation. But now the new joint directorship of Peter Martins and Jerome Robbins is established, and what the company seems currently to be, offers a fair impression of what it is to become. To judge from performances seen over the first repertory weeks of the season, before the troupe entered its five-week Christmas torpor of *The Nutcracker*, it is still going to be terrific.

There is backstage talk that the new tandem arrangement could be having difficulties, and certainly the new management is showing its first rift with the defection of John Taras (always Balanchine's lieutenant) to work with American Ballet Theatre. It was always to be expected that Robbins, now the world's senior active choreographer, and Martins; said to be Lincoln Kirstein's personal choice as Balanchine's heir, would not always see eye to eye. Neither did Robbins and Balanchine, and, although Robbins and Martins are both designated as "Balletmasters-in-Chief", it seems that the relationship is shaking down to one not all that dissimilar to the old regime - although clearly Martins cannot have his predecessor's authority, and Robbins is also probably taking a larger role in the company's long-range planning.

The loss of Taras is potentially more serious - and indicative of real change rather than cosmetic adjustment. Taras has expressed himself quite strongly following his leaving, saying, among other things, "My opinion wasn't being sought at all" and adding:



The Mozartian elegance and grace of Helgi Tomasson's *Menuetto*; Kira Nichols, Otto Neubert

Clive Barnes reports on the progress of New York City Ballet after Balanchine

Splendid survivors

"The worst thing is for someone to take over and have people around him who've been around longer than he has. There ought to be a clean sweep."

Yet experience has always shown that it is only what happens on stage that counts, and the company is still effortlessly delivering the goods. Since the institution of the new directorial pattern - shortly before Balanchine's death - up until the beginning of the current season, the company

has shown in New York two new works by Martins, *A Schubertiad* and *Requiescence*. Robbins's *Antique Epigraphs*, a new production of his *Mozart* and his sensationally successful collaboration with Twyla Tharp, *Brahms Variations*, on a theme of Handel orchestrated by Edmund Rubbra. There has also been a major new staging, with fresh designs, of Balanchine's *Liebeslieder Walzer*. A formidable artistic record for little more than a year's work - particularly when it is recalled that this summer, at the Saratoga Festival the company gave two other premieres, Helgi Tomasson's *Minuetto*, which has just entered the New York repertory, and Bart Cook's *Seven by Five*.

A couple of performances, taken virtually at random, can characterize the company, here and now, in general repertory. These two typical programmes included four Balanchine ballets, one by Robbins and another by Martins. Three of the Balanchines were pure dance classical works, virtually plotless, yet markedly different in style. The innocent *Diver-*

mento from *Le Baiser de la fée*, delicately danced by Patricia McBride and, in a debut, Ib Andersen, is quite different from the sophisticated drive of the *Shrovetide* *Violin Concerto*, and different again from the evocative dance grandeur of *Raymonda*. *Violin Concerto* was this versatility that made Balanchine a choreographer for all seasons. He was always able to temper his pure dance creations with a pseudo-dramatic work such as the erotic *Japonaiserie* of the recently revived *Bugaku*, which, with eerily portentous music by Toshio Mayuzumi and imitative, disposable choreography, seems unlikely to win a place in the permanent Balanchine canon. It was decently enough performed (if decency, has anything to do with it) by Heather Watts and Bart Cook, but the ebt-Balanchine portrayal of these two performers was the lustrous Lourdes Lopez in the *Violin Concerto*. A smiling Merrill Ashley partnered by an over-soft Sean Lavery did well enough in *Raymonda Variations*.

There is not much zest in Martins's *A Schubertiad*, which looks more pallid on each repeated viewing. It also appears longer. And the dancing is better than it looks - a factor that is never a plus for any ballet. The most enjoyable work on both programmes was Robbins's *The Four Seasons*, splendidly danced and revived by Heather Watts and Bart Cook, but the ebt-Balanchine portrayal of these two performers was the lustrous Lourdes Lopez in the *Violin Concerto*. A smiling Merrill Ashley partnered by an over-soft Sean Lavery did well enough in *Raymonda Variations*.

Repertory is one thing - but Balanchine, and his various acolytes conditioned New York City Ballet audiences to reverie creativity or, at creativity's basic level, novelty above all. The unspoken, but never unheard, cry has always been "But what have you done for us lately?" Well, what City Ballet has done for its audiences lately is Tomasson's courtly *Minuetto*. It has a particular elegance and grace that heralds the arrival of a new master. This 25-minute cascade of carefully calculated dance, set with effortless rightness to Mozart's *Divertimento No 17 in D, K. 334*, combines exquisitely baroque invention, in all its complexity, with a simplicity that bears the hallmark of the composer.

Minuetto uses two main couples, a trio (with an odd man out, sometimes turning the man pas de trois into an all-male set), and an ensemble of seven girls. All of the proceedings are invested with a Watteauesque gallantry.

This is the fourth ballet created by the Icelandic-born Tomasson, but the first he has made actually on City Ballet dancers. Although already the leading contender to be appointed balletmaster to the Royal Danish Ballet, he made an unusually late start in life for a choreographer. *Minuetto* represented his biggest chance to date, so ironically he could take no chances. He did not. He got some of the best young dancers in the company, and they all repaid his trust by dancing with an airy brilliance that bounced round the stage.

King's Consort/King
Wigmore Hall

Something in the atmosphere of Schütz's *Historia der Geburt Jesu Christi* peculiarly suits it to presentation on New Year's Eve. It narrates a birth, asserts mankind's rebirth, yet its jubilation is muted by retrospection, its instrumentation hints at irony rather than sanctity, and its musical pictorialism is (often literally) low-key.

Using the sparsest possible resources, given that Schütz specifies recorders for the shepherds, cornets for Herod and suitably ponderous sackbuts for assorted priests and scribes, the King's Consort admirably caught this

Concert

restrained, circumspect vein of baroque joy, the singers responding with spirit to the dancing triple-time melodies of the Heavenly Host, and characterizing the other dramatic personae deftly. It was Rogers Covey-Crump's singing of the Evangelist, though, that really gave the interpretation its emotional fibre. His was a seemingly effortless, gently-phrased narration, yet his response to Schütz's lean word-painting - such as the passing violence of anguished chromaticism as the Innocents are killed - was finely observed.

Robert King handled his Consort with some flair, as was also apparent in the concert's other offering - a "Christmas Vespers" fashioned out of seven movements from Monteverdi's 1640 *Selva morale e spirituale*. Some effective touches here included a precisely judged phrasing-out of texture as the ungodly "consume away" in Beatus Vir, and Laudate Pueri done as a five-part madrigal with the wispiest of continuo support.

There were nouseable problems as well. Not all the Consort's singers demonstrated Covey-Crump's soloistic prowess, and there were lapses of intonation. This weakened the Vespers' impact, especially since with so few voices the mighty homophonic declamations did not punctuate the solo passages as Monteverdi might have expected in St Mark's, Venice - like thunderous sonic semi-colons.

The bass was a touch underbalanced - North added some lute bass notes effectively - but it will be easier to judge the instrument when it has a piece to itself in the last concert of this series. Ironically, the transcription for lute of the Cello Suite BWV 995, with which Nigel North began, is a piece which precisely fits Adlung's range for the Lautenwerk; but it would be

Concert

manuscript of Bach's BWV 996 is inscribed "aufs Lauten Werck", and uses a range exactly similar to the instrument as described by Jacob Adlung. Lewis Jones's new reconstruction was used only in ensemble. Maggie Cole was joined by Nigel North at the end of the evening for a neat transcription of one of the organ trio sonatas. Perhaps this was an acknowledgement that the Lautenwerk is not yet quite up to solo exposure: that one could hear sounded crisp, often attractive, but rather brittle, without the lute's responsive cloyance and with a rather thudding action.

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ungracious to object to bearing it projected with such rare poise and elegance as Nigel North achieved here.

Sometimes his playing can seem uncommunicative and a little withdrawn, but once one enters his world the rewards are very great. His own version of the BWV 1010 Cello Suite was a restrained delight; without any of the intense heaviness that most cellists bring to this music, it sparkled and flowed through a succession of hair-raising technical difficulties.

Amid all the uncertainties of instrumentation, Bach's Fourth Partita stood out as indubitably a harpsichord piece, and it was played by Maggie Cole on a copy of a 1738 Zell instrument which must have been very close to what Bach himself used. Fine playing, with some hiccups but much understanding; we will be lucky if the tercentenary year provides a more exploratory or thought-provoking Bach series than this.

Nicholas Kenyon

North/Cole
Wigmore Hall

"Something special in the way of music" was served up in July 1739 when J. S. Bach was visited by his son Wilhelm Friedemann and the lutenists Krogans and Weiss; perhaps it included some performances on that curious instrument the Lautenwerk, of which we know Bach possessed two examples. Something special was again served up in Sunday night's Wigmore Hall concert, when a modern copy of a Lautenwerk - the first to have been attempted in this country, we were informed - was played in the second of six concerts featuring also all Bach's music for the lute and a good selection of harpsichord music.

The Lautenwerk is essentially a keyboard instrument designed to sound like the lute, but we know little of its exact specification or repertory, except that one

of pastoral ninth and eleventh chords that is unlikely to give Harpo Marx's son any further claim to fame. It did, however, give Miss McLaughlin the opportunity to display one of her strongest assets, the ability to produce a wide variety of timbres, including a lovely veiled half-tone.

Also at the Wigmore the Athens-born pianist Alexandra Nomidon revealed a natural command of rubato - that instinctive feel for when to hold back, where to add weight for greater emphasis - that grew increasingly impressive as her Schubertmann/Scriabin/Chopin recital progressed.

If *Pavillons* and *Davidson's* *terzetto* had seemed, for all this evident musicality, a little repressed, conceived too much in domestic terms, and (in slower movements) occasionally mired by a messy pedal semi-release, then in 12 of Scriabin's fiendishly demanding preludes the balance between poetry and power was judged to perfection. Both here and in Chopin's *Andante Spianato* and *Grande Polonaise brillante* the choice of tempi was convincing and momentum was superbly maintained, even towards the end of the Chopin, where impeccable fingerwork carried her triumphantly through a better-sketched finish.

Richard Morrison

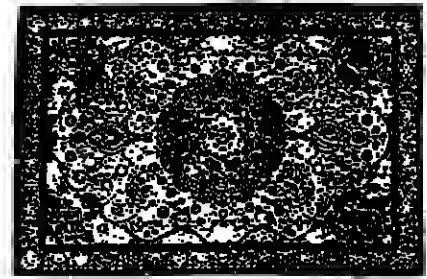
London debuts The harp takes off

A Wigmore Hall harp recital - proceeding with expected grace and sedateness - suddenly acquired a bizarre surreal aspect. Murray Schafer's *The Crown of Ariadne* required the Canadian harpist Carol McLaughlin to surround herself with a battery of tinkly percussion instruments and to operate them after the fashion of a one-man-band, while also detuning her harp "mid-light" and activating a tape recorder that provided a background ostinato. The harp itself was treated to a variety of articulations, from a swooping karate chop across the strings to start "The Dance of the Bull" to sharp blows with a hard stick.

Miss McLaughlin carried it off with great aplomb, effortlessly catching the spirit of the oddball but agreeable pictorialism. It lifted the whole evening, giving her the confidence to tackle Ernesto Halffter's litig *Danza de la pastora* and Parish Alvars's virtuosic *La Mandoline* with much finesse.

She had earlier been less impressive in Handel's B flat Concerto (better known and, I think, better, for organ), where bumpy passagework, leaden ornaments and an insufficiently distinct bass robbed the music of wit and stature. Her recital also contained a premiere - *Textures* by William Marx, a bit, rather aimless collection

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

The flight towards parity with Dow and dollar

When the price and yield of War Loan, the best known and least celebrated stock in the gilt-edged list, touched it was as if comets had collided. An awesome event that filled the City with a deep foreboding. A decade later eyes are again turned towards the night sky: after a tumultuous year the London market is moving towards another momentous collision - parity with New York.

Soaring equity prices have taken the Financial Times ordinary share index to within 48 points of 1000. Wall Street, lately stricken by the implications of the American trade and budget deficits, is moving down towards the same figure. In the foreign exchange market the pound continues to droop: at \$1.587, a one-for-one exchange rate no longer seems far-fetched.

In the foreign exchange market, sterling has consistently tracked the fall in oil prices. The Government is fortunate in that lower dollar prices for oil raise the Exchequer's sterling revenue from oil taxes. Without this windfall pressures on the public sector borrowing requirement from the miner's strike and unemployment costs might by now have forced changes in policy. If oil prices continue to weaken - a tighter monetary policy in the United States - would lower world oil demand in an already over supplied market - the oft repeated recovery in sterling is hard to see.

The 1984 devaluation of sterling, broadly 12 per cent, presumably delights Labour and seems not to trouble the Government. From where the fund managers are sitting, it is an invitation, which most of them have accepted, to look again at British ordinary shares, and not merely at companies making appreciable overseas profits which improve in sterling terms as the pound drops.

Despite confident forecasts, perhaps because of them, the cautious money managers are not convinced that the effective rate of inflation will not rise this year. The cherished monetarist policy, as the money supply figures and the wilting gilt-edged market bear witness, is not as tight as it should be. House prices are rising at double figure rates. Earnings are accelerating at a disturbing pace.

So far, the equity market has taken everything in its stride. For real and figurative reasons, Bass looks like the share of a remarkably rewarding year. Britain's largest brewer, Bass, has concentrated systematically on refining the output techniques and product range of its basic business - ale. Rival brewers have joined in the fashionable drive to diversify into a looser structure of leisure activities. The results are a tribute to Mr Derek Palmer and his colleagues.

Bass volumes last year shot ahead by 5 per cent. Cash poured into the Treasury. Profits raced ahead. Bass now has virtual stranglehold on the crucial high margin larger market.

Archaic structure

The knock-on impact of Bass's pre-eminence is perhaps even more significant. Diversification has cost the competing brewers money. Average gearing is now high and as competition from Bass constrains cash flows, gearing is pushed inexorably higher. But the opportunity to replenish the capital base can be limited by archaic and discriminatory capital structure, which the City dislikes.

The contrast between hard line management by sector leaders which are mopping up old-established and asset rich family and simply paternalistic groups is the equity theme of the year. We heard it in the bitterly contested Dixons-Currys bid.

Dixons' hungry expansionism and management drive ought to have been thwarted by the depth of the Curry family's share holding. Dixons won because the City voted for its offer.

The refrain was heard again in Rascal's acquisition of Chubb, a paternalistic company which had moved too slowly.

In the struggle between management and tradition, it is clear which side the City majority is backing. This is hardly surprising. Financial markets have been exposed to world pricing structures, in terms of yield curves, since exchange controls were scrapped late in 1979. Parts of British industry have again started backsliding in the analogous area of international unit cost parity. Hence the City's enthusiasm for well-run companies. Share ratings matter as never before.

Fund managers especially, but private members, too, have interesting decisions to make. They can build up core holdings in the well-managed British companies, which now attract premium ratings in a market moving rapidly towards a two-tier status structure. Every equity portfolio should include Bass, Rascal, Dixons, Dee Corporation, Bunzl, Cable and Wireless, and Redland. These are companies dynamically directed which have spent the recession trimming costs and waiting for Britain's inevitable lurch back into spending on the country's infrastructure.

They can also spot the highly regarded "family" company, burdened with capital, product and succession problems, and wait for the predators to pounce. Favourites in this category are Pilkington, TI Group, English China Clay, possibly Reckitts and Colman and Land Securities. Take out prices ought to reflect what the bidder calculates he can earn on the assets, and add up to a hefty premium on current share prices. The game is not new. What has changed is the City's attitude to under-performing companies, which is now caustic.

Exceptions to the general rules, of course, abound. Cable and Wireless is capable of launching some highly successful raids on some of the more lucrative business parts of British Telecom's traffic in Britain. But Telecom itself is certainly immune from takeover. In food retailing, Sainsbury is an exceptionally well-managed company with a strong family tradition. Ferranti plays a similar role in electronics.

The concept, however, does extend to the most honoured household name in Britain - Marks and Spencer. Concept retailing has really taken Britain by storm in the last few years, witness, the extraordinary success of Mr Ralph Halpern of Burton's. M & S might well be forced to alter its image, and remodel its sophisticated structure of quoted, but dependent, suppliers, at some stage in the eighties.

Glaxo is a strong candidate for any portfolio. The company possesses a "wonder drug", Zantac, which has transformed its profits. In 1982, Glaxo was earning £134 million; by 1985/86, the pretax figure amounts to £500 million, with Zantac the main motor of growth.

Sadly, such outstanding product stories were few and far between during 1984. The underlying tale in British industry, despite the stock market's flattering heights is one of continued attrition. Corporate bankruptcies are still running at a very high level. Some form of rescue service does exist, it is true, in the shape of the Bank of England's industrial lifeboat, whose shadowy existence cannot detract from the solidity of its achievement. Hardly a British household name has actually gone under during Britain's industrial recession.

ORDINARY SHARES FOR MOST SEASONS

Company	Price p	High p	Low p	Yield %	P/E
LEANER & FITTER					
Bass	482	482	300	3.8	11.8
Dixons	575	575	215	1.2	19.3
Rascal	260	286	192	1.6	17.5
Dee	206	210	106	3.3	20.2
Bunzl	427	195	427	2.1	15.8
Cable & Wireless	445	448	270	2.1	15.8
Redland	297	316	220	4.6	11.3
QUARRIES					
Pilkington	300	350	222	6.1	6.4
TI	254	290	164	6.1	7.9
English CC	256	267	202	5.5	11.0
Reckitts & Colman	563	578	398	3.6	17.8
Land Secs	310	318	249	3.3	28.6
GOOD PRODUCTS					
Glaxo	£11	£11	700p	1.7	21.1
LONG ODDS					
Plessey	210	248	188	2.6	14.1
Dunlop	25	48	24		Shares suspended

BAT cleared of US anti-trust charges

By Our City Staff

BAT Industries, the tobacco, retailing paper and insurance group, has been finally cleared of violating US anti-trust law through its 1978 acquisition of Appleton Papers, the leading US manufacturer of carboless copying paper.

The US Federal Trade Commission's decision upholds a 1983 administrative law judge's ruling, which dismissed a 1980 FTC complaint. The complaint charged that BAT's acquisition might substantially lessen competition or tend to create a monopoly in the manufacture and sale of chemical carboless paper in the US. It also alleged that BAT was a significant potential entrant into the US market.

The commission's decision stated the actual potential

competition doctrine rests upon firmest ground when it is virtually certain that, but for the merger or acquisition, the prospective entrant would have entered the market on an independent basis in the near future. In its conclusion the commission said "that the evidence did not provide clear proof that BATs would have entered independently but for Appleton".

Mr C. L. McCarty, chairman and chief executive of BATUS, the US holding company for BAT Industries, said: "There has never been any doubt in our minds that our acquisition of Appleton complied fully with the antitrust law. Unfortunately our vindication comes very late in the day."

"We have incurred millions of dollars in legal fees."

Chancellor to plan tax cuts at weekend Budget meeting

By William Kay and David Smith

The annual get-together of Treasury ministers, signalling the formal start to the Budget planning process, is expected to take place over the weekend of January 11-13.

The meetings, at which the entire Treasury team and political advisers, but no officials, will be present, are expected to be held at Chevening, near Sevenoaks, Kent, the official residence of the Foreign Secretary.

The Treasury declined to confirm that such a gathering is planned. However, a mid-January Budget session has become a regular event in recent years.

This year, speculation on the size of the potential tax cuts at the Chancellor's disposal has started early, with a figure of £3 billion being circulated, almost before the ink was dry on the autumn statement, which incorporated a tax cut or implied fiscal adjustment figure of £1.5 billion.

The official Treasury line is that £1.5 billion is still the figure the Chancellor is aiming at and that it could as easily disappear as double between now and the March 19 Budget.

However, most outside observers expect the Chancellor to have considerably more than

£1.5 billion at his disposal, partly because of the effect of the lower pound on North Sea oil revenues.

The Treasury assumed in the autumn statement that the sterling index would remain stable. However, within that overall stability, a dollar rate of \$1.30 is believed to have been assumed.

The present exchange rate of around \$1.16, if maintained, should add around £1.8 billion to North Sea oil revenues in 1985/86.

The Treasury team, as well as discussing the size of the tax giveaway, will be examining the room for extending value added tax, and for continuing fiscal reform.

Already, the hostile reaction to some of the possible extensions of VAT, particularly books and children's clothing and footwear, and to taxing pension lump sums, has indicated to the Treasury that it is running up against powerful special interests.

The stockbrokers, Simoo & Coates, in a new forecast for 1985 published today, predicts that the Chancellor will raise an additional £500 million from extending the VAT net, including £350 million from putting VAT on public transport.



Nigel Lawson: looking to extend VAT

This, together with a one-off, tax-raising measure, such as last year's move to bring forward VAT on imports, should leave the Chancellor with a comfortable £2 billion with which to increase income tax thresholds, Simon & Coates says.

They argue that this would involve no net demand stimulus, since the tax cuts would simply offset the impact of reduced public spending in relation to GDP.

Simon & Coates is one of four stockbrokers to issue economic forecasts for 1985. The others are Phillips & Drew, Wood, Mackenzie and Capel-

Cure Myers, and they show a remarkable degree of unanimity about the outlook.

Interest rates, they agree, are set to come down from the present base rate level of around 9½ per cent to as low as 8 per cent a year hence, and Capel-Cure projects a fall to 6 per cent by the end of 1986.

The pound should remain stable against most other currencies, and recover to 1.30 against the US dollar. Despite this, exports should increase by 5 per cent over the year, helping to achieve a 3 to 3.5 per cent growth rate in the economy.

Consumer spending is expected to rise at a slightly slower rate.

The only noticeable area of dispute among these forecasters is inflation. Their predictions for this year vary from the 4½ per cent of Somon & Coates to 5½ per cent by Phillips & Drew.

Cambridge Econometrics, a forecasting group linked to the University of Cambridge Department of Applied Economics, says today that up to 200,000 extra jobs could be created within three years if labour costs could be cut through either lower taxes or structural changes in the labour market. But the full benefits will be gained only if the Government relaxes its monetary stance to avoid a rise in the pound.

Imports hit jobs in shoe industry

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

British manufacturers are losing their share of the still buoyant footwear market to imports. As a result, the number of jobs in the industry has fallen and short-time working has increased.

Previously, with manufacturers enjoying increased British exports, the industry workforce had held fairly steady. But the latest returns of the British Footwear Manufacturers Federation show a reduction of 200 jobs in September to 50,200.

The number on short time compared with the same period a year before, jumped nearly 40 per cent in September to 4,600. Overtime working was down by a fifth compared with the same time last year.

So far there are no reports of companies in trouble, except for one tiny manufacturer near Northampton, which has closed.

In October nearly half the British makers were working below capacity, compared with less than a fifth for most of the year. The industry appears increasingly anxious about prospects to 1985, says the federation.

It does not, however, see a repetition of the widespread closures which hit the industry during 1981. There should now be a countervailing effect as more companies embark on new design and marketing strategies while cutting costs, the federation argues.

But in its latest quarterly review the federation admits that the import picture continues to be "extremely disturbing". In the first half of 1984 imports were up 21 per cent compared with the same period of 1983 and the third quarter increase was still 18 per cent at a time when imports usually slacken considerably. Imports by volume, which in 1983 stood at 56 per cent, are now almost 61 per cent.

Between January and September huge volume increases were reported from Spain (up 61 per cent), Brazil (34 per cent) and Taiwan (a 36 per cent rise), all key suppliers to the British market. The biggest importer, Italy, showed a rise of 15 per cent.

Third quarter import penetration was 51 per cent by value, demonstrating how exporters are moving increasingly out of cheaper footwear.

The bright spot for British makers is exports, which account for nearly 15 per cent of production. Exports were up 9 per cent in volume in the third quarter of 1984. In the first nine months of the year exports to the EEC were up 14 per cent in volume.

'Informal agreement' with Opec to hold N Sea oil prices

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, the Energy Minister, and the British National Oil Corporation said last night that an informal agreement has been made with the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to leave North Sea oil prices unchanged for at least a month.

Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, two of the most dominant and pro-British members of Opec, have said that agreement was made to give the Opec accord on production quotas and the new price structure reached on Saturday in Geneva a chance to work and bring stability to the confused world oil market.

However, the Department of Energy and BNOC deny that a formal agreement has been reached. Officially, the government relationship remains unchanged, with the setting of North Sea prices a matter entirely for BNOC and the level of production in the hands of the oil companies operating offshore.

But over the weekend Saudi Arabia and Kuwait said that they had been in touch with "British Government sources".



Alick Buchanan-Smith: confirmed informal agreement.

Sheikh Ali Khalifa al Saba, the Kuwaiti oil minister, said in Geneva, that an informal agreement for a month had been reached with BNOC to see if Opec can shore up the world oil price before any new decision is taken on North Sea prices.

to a clear reference to BNOC's losses - Parliament has had to vote an extra £45 million to cover losses from September 19 to the end of the year - the

Kuwaiti oil minister said: "What will develop will depend on whether Britain is concerned with the short-term national losses of a small oil trading company or profits coming to the whole state."

Opec has given a warning that any long-term pattern of price cutting by Britain would lead to similar moves by its members, who by using their massive potential output would force prices to below the economic level for many North Sea fields.

The denials from Britain will do little to improve strained relations with Opec and equally do little to improve world confidence in Opec's ability to maintain its existing price structure.

If North Sea prices are to be cut in the coming weeks at least one Opec member, Nigeria, has said that it will break ranks and match any North Sea price, particularly as its output compares directly with Britain's in quality and like Britain and Norway feels that the price gap between the best-selling cheap and heavy crudes and its own production is too wide under the present Opec structure.

Even more prosperous was Peel, the father of the prime minister of the same name. Peel left £1.5 million on his death in 1830, all derived from the cotton industry, and he was said to be the richest man in Britain.

Peel was from yeoman peasant stock. His own father had entered the textile industry in the 1760s, forming a calico-printing firm with two men called Haworth and Yates, in Blackburn.

Sir Robert Peel joined his father's partners in a new venture in Bury, leaving his father in Blackburn.

As cotton prospered in 1785, the development of the canal network, begun around 1760, continued in what has come to be known as the canal age. By 1790, the Trent & Mersey, Staffordshire & Worcestershire, Birmingham, Coventry, Oxford, Cheshire and Erewash canals had been built.

David Smith

Ford-Fiat link 'likely'

By Alison Eadie

Ford Motor of the US may soon take a 13.56 per cent stake in Fiat, Italy's largest car manufacturer, according to reports in Italian newspapers.

The stake is expected to be bought from the Libyan Arab Foreign Bank, a Fiat shareholder since 1977.

Fiat issued a statement saying it was negotiating a technical cooperation agreement with Ford, aimed at possible joint projects, but that the talks should be seen in the context of "a wider plurality of relations involving all other major automobile manufacturers on a permanent basis."

The Libyan Bank made no comment on the rumours, but Italian industrial sources reported that the bank had renewed its two appointments on the Fiat board and given no indication that it intended to vote participation.

On Monday Fiat ordinary shares rose sharply on the Ford reports, closing up 55 lire at 2,150 lire (96p).

The automobile division of Fiat had sales of 1.9 trillion lire (£5,298 million) in 1983 and is expected to increase sales by 5 per cent in 1984. Fiat car profits are also expected to rise from 80.6 billion lire in 1983.

IN BRIEF

German buy for Apricot maker

Applied Computer Techniques (Holdings), the Midlands-based group which makes the Apricot personal computer, is to take over Beugrand Datentechnik of West Germany for between £275,000 and £540,000. The price will depend on the net assets of Beugrand at completion. The deal will give ACT a stronger springboard from which to sell the Apricot in Germany.

Bass benefits

Mr Ian Prosser, group managing director of Bass, the brewing and leisure giant, says in his annual review: "The rationalisation which has taken place over the past three years in our decreasing, and the benefits are to be found in the re-established cost base which adds so much to the profitability of each additional barrel of beer sold."

Atlanta advice

Atlanta Investment Trust is telling shareholders not to remain as minority investors now that Grovesell has won control. They should accept the cash offer or sell to the market.

Bid agreed

Control Securities is making an agreed £2.5 million bid for a fellow property company, Ascot Holdings. The terms are two Control shares for every five Ascot.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

FT Ind Ord	3523 (+7.1)
FT-A All Share	N/A
FT Govt Securities	81.71 (+0.03)
FT-SE 100	1892.2 (+6.8)
Bargains	17,323
Datastream USM	104.84 (+0.7)
New York	
Dow Jones	1211.57 (+7.40)
Tokyo	
Nikkei Dow	N/A
Hong Kong	
Hang Seng	1200.38 (+14.71)
Amsterdam	181.9 (+0.8)
Stdney: AO	N/A
Frankfurt	
Commerzbank 1107.9 (unchanged)	
Brussels	
General	158.30 (unchanged)
Paris: CAC	182.4 (unchanged)
Zurich	
SKA General	320.10 (unchanged)

GOLD

London fixing	am \$308.00pm \$308.00
close	\$308.50-\$309.50
New York	
Comex	\$307.95

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Reardon Smith	9p +3.5p
Espley Trust	23p +7p
Sunlight Electrical	8p +1p
J Hepworth	181p +7p
Arthur Guinness	244p +12p
Merchantile House	354p +10p
Hanson Trust	343p +10p
Thorn EMI	484p +15p
Jackson Exploration	108p +8p
Vosper	185p +4p
McCorquodale	190p +5p
Booker McConnell	234p +7p
British Land	149p +5p
Rank Hovis McDougall	138p +10p
Feedback	117p +10p
Keen & Scott Higgs	57p +4p
Belhaven Brewery	43p +3p
BBA Group	58p +4p
Picnic Timber	142p +8p
SGS Group	144p +5p
Brown & Jackson	18p +1p
Glass, Glover	298p +20p

FALLS:	
Matthew Brown	280p -30p
Wolverhampton Laundry	34p -3p

CURRENCIES

London:	
£: \$1.587 (-0.0040)	
£: DM 3.8560 (+0.0040)	
£: SwFr 3.0130 (+0.0040)	
£: FF11.1750 (-0.0050)	
£: Yen 281.40 (-0.030)	
£ Index: 3.0 (-0.2)	
New York:	
£: \$1.582	
£: DM 3.1550 (-0.0)	
£ Index: 145.0 (+0.4)	

INTEREST RATES

London:	
Bank Base: 9.8%	
3-month Interbank 10½-9½%	
3-month eligible bills 9½-9½%	
buying rate	
US:	
Prime Rate 10.75%	
Federal Funds 8%	
3-month Treasury Bills 7.85% (7.55%)	
Long bond 102(102½)	

BARCLAYS BANK ACT 1984.

The reorganisation of the Barclays Group took effect on 1st January 1985 and all branches of Barclays Bank International Limited have become branches of Barclays Bank PLC.

The quoted company, Barclays Bank PLC, has become the Group holding company and has changed its name to BARCLAYS PLC.

Barclays Bank International Limited has become the operating bank. It has been re-registered as a public limited company and has changed its name to BARCLAYS BANK PLC.

No action need be taken by stockholders or customers.

Barclays PLC is registered in England No. 48839. Barclays Bank PLC is registered in England No. 1026167. Registered offices: 54 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3AH.

2nd January, 1985



STOCK MARKET REPORT

Hanson Trust helps share indexes see in new year with a record

By Pam Spooner

Stock markets prepared for 1985 with yet another peak on New Year's Eve. The FT 30 share index rose steadily to 952.3, up 7.1 points, and the FT-SE 100 share index was 6.6 points better at 1232.2.

Hanson Trust did much to lead the indexes into new ground, rising 15p to 343p as a wide range of investors decided to have the stock in their New Year portfolios.

There is considerable optimism about Hanson's purchase of London Brick early last year, and about the group's dollar earnings. City analysts are also watching acquisition plans keenly, seeing such growth as key to the long-term performance of Hanson Trust. Hanson is presently offering £151 million for Powell Duffryn and more bids are expected from Lord Hanson and his team.

At Quilter Goodison, the stockbroker, analyst Mr. Mike Murphy reckons Hanson will make £225 million in the current year, against £169 million in the year to September 1984, and he believes a price-earnings ratio of 15 would not be over-generous. That com-

brighter on belief that the Christmas period had brought bumper sales, and there were rises of a few pence for Northern Foods, Tate & Lyle, Dalgety, and Unilever. But S & W Berisford slipped 1p to 186p as market men began worrying about prospects at the group's property division.

Berisford, and its partner, the London and Edinburgh Trust, had hoped to sell the head lease of the Billingsgate development in the spring, but problems for its tenant, Samuel Montagu, do not augur well for those plans. Montagu has found it does not want the 25-year lease which it took on office Billingsgate at a cost of more than £6 million a year.

Berisford has also had to carry out remedial work at Princess House, in Bush Street, before Coutts & Co., the high-class banking arm of National Westminster, would move in. Analysts are worried about the cost of such work, but at least Coutts begins its move this month.

Oil shares were again losing ground, unsettled by talk of a price war between Opec and the North Sea producers, and by the sickly-looking agreement reached by Opec members recently.

There were losses of a few pence across the share price lists, although British Petroleum resisted the decline as best it could, falling just 2p to 486p. BP announced a 9.9 per cent holding in Voyager Petroleum, bought for 54p a share. The company last month revealed an agreed 55p a share offer for Voyager, which has exploration assets onshore in the south of England.

Jackson Exploration went against the sector trend, rising 8p to 103p as stock market tipsters put a 'buy for 1985' tag on the shares.

Vesper picked up 5p to 165p on Monday as the National Research Development Corporation accepted shares in the group in place of nearly £1.5 million worth of loans to Vesper. However, the NRDC notional paid a price of 133.2p a share for the 816,127 new ordinary shares it now holds.

Norton Orix showed the

effect of its one-for-five scrip issue, falling 28p to 125p. The shares traded around 180p in 1983.

Bodyside International, the industrial clothing and safety products group, held steady at 84p as the Prolife High Income Unit Trust, which is run by Provincial Insurance, announced a 6.944 per cent stake.

Expley Trust stood out on the property lists with a 7p rise to 23p. Market men were looking forward to confirmation that Mr. Ronnie Aitken, who was brought in to rescue the company last autumn, has made certain essential self-off.

British Land benefited from weekend share tipping, rising 5 1/2p to 149p as the forecasters put the shares on their shopping lists. But City analysts are still keeping a close eye on the company's relationship with Style, the shoe retailing company which has portfolio of plum freehold sites.

British Land bought a 5.3 per cent stake in Style just a few months ago. Style shares were unchanged at 148p.

Ward White, which has been growing in recent years in the shoe-selling business, gained another 5p to 205p as the market uprating continues.

Having long been regarded as a dour Midlands shoe-maker, Ward White is now being recognized as a dynamic and primarily retailing group. Its expansion in the US has been rapid since the early 1980s, and its timing there just about perfect, given the 20 per cent appreciation of the American dollar against the pound in 1984.

J. Hephworth saw plenty of action on Monday, the share price zipping along from 174p to 191p at one stage, before settling back at 183p, up 9p on the day. The clothing group stays high on the list of shares some investors want to buy for the new year.

Other stores shares were also pennies higher as City men sounded cheerful about the Christmas selling period, and anticipated record turnover in the present 'sales' season.

Macdonald Martin Distilleries was unchanged at 730p after the Securities Trust of

Scotland revealed that it had lifted its stake slightly, from 18.4 to 18.5 per cent.

"Guinness is good for you" was the message for investors, and the share price of Arthur Guinness reflected its suggested 1985 prospects with a 12p jump to 244p.

Others brewers also showed new year liveliness. There were gains of between 2p and 4p for stocks such as Bellhaven Brewery Group, H P Butler, Greenall Whitley, Greene King, Whitbread and Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries.

But Matthew Brown, the north country beer-maker which has risen strongly in recent weeks on hopes of a bid, looked flat by the time profit-makers had finished with the shares. The price slumped 30p to 280p as the expected offer from Scottish & Newcastle Breweries failed to materialise. S & N shares stayed steady at 132p.

Among the discount houses and money brokers, Mercantile

The Irish leasing company, Woodchester Investments, moved quietly across from USM lists to a full London quote on Monday, with the shares trading around 145p, a penny or two up on the previous week. Wood, Mackenzie, which is broker to Woodchester, reckons profit growth is still strong, and should reach 40 per cent in 1985, taking profits to £700,000 from £500,000 last time. That puts the leasing and rentals group on a prospective price-earnings ratio of 7.3, a long way below sector and market averages.

House continued to make headway. The shares rose a further 10p to 354p on hopes of a bid from Merrill Lynch.

Banks generally were a few pence brighter after the agreement between Argentina and the International Monetary Fund on credit for the beleaguered South American nation. But Charterhouse J Rothschild slipped back 3p to 105p, losing some of the glimmer which spread to the shares after the recent bid for Hambro Life by BAI Industries. CIR has 24.9 per cent of Hambro Life.

Ranks Havis McDougall rose 10p to another new high of 138p on Monday, lifted by bid hopes and tips from City observers that the shares have a bright year ahead. Thoughts of a takeover for the food group are strong, with Allied-Lyons now whispered to be a possible bidder. In recent days, jobbers in RHM shares were reckoned to have caught short by a large buyer.

parcs with a present rating of less than 14, and would take the share price much closer to the 400p level.

Thorn EMI also helped the indexes along, rising 17p to 484p. The shares remain volatile, and were influenced on Monday largely by new year share tips. James Capel, the stockbroker, has put Thorn on its 1985 shopping list.

Blue Circle, Cadbury-Schweppes, Lucas and Transhome Forte all joined in the pre-holiday mark-up, helped by mentions in a variety of analysts' commentaries.

Food shares were generally

on hopes that bid action will extend to a target. The company has long been favoured as a target for Mr. Robert Maxwell, especially since he failed in his takeover attempt on John Waddington.

The British Printing & Communication Corporation, where Mr. Maxwell is chairman, gained 1p to 172p.

Booker McConnell, which is waiting for a decision from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the £240 million bid made last year by Dec Corporation, formally denied suggestion that it is planning a major restructuring of the group. The suggestions included a possible sell-off of the food distribution business, one of the main targets of the Dec bid. Booker shares rose 7p to 234p after the denial.

Barget, the furniture company, requested suspension of dealings in its shares on Monday, pending clarification of the financial position of the company. The shares were trading at 10p, their lowest-ever level, reflecting concern for the

Half-year figures are due from British Telecom next week, and James Capel, the stockbroker, expects profits of £600 million against £463 million in the comparable part of 1983. Capel goes for £1,400 million for the full year - a touch conservative, the broker suggests, but adds it would not rule out the possibility of revising its forecasts upwards.

Shares edged another 2p higher to 105 1/2p on Monday.

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ECONOMIC COMMENTARY

Promise of steady growth and stability

By Tim Congdon

The Government's strategic fiscal framework is its most valuable achievement

Is the economy getting better or worse? It is a simple question and it should have a simple answer. But, to judge from the babble of opinion and surmise as we enter 1985, the answer is rather complicated.

Of course, the disagreement may be rather contrived. Expert macroeconomists, dissident backbenchers, newspaper columnists and the like are the main prognosticators, and they increase the demand for their

services by the deliberate perpetuation of confusion. Nevertheless, what is surprising is that so little consensus seems to have been reached about whether the economy improved in 1984 or, indeed, in preceding years. A comparison of the main variables over a series of years is easy to prepare. It is also timely as a prelude to the report on the Thatcher Government's policies.

Four variables - output, inflation, the balance of payments and employment - are conventionally regarded as the main measures of economic health.

On output there is still some uncertainty about 1984, because figures on gross domestic product have not yet been

finalized. But enough evidence is available to suggest that growth was about 2 1/2 per cent. In the table another 1 per cent has been added to indicate the underlying trend. The justification is that the miners' strike, which reduced GDP by 1 per cent in 1984, should be considered, from the statistical point of view, as a distortion.

The pattern is of steady recovery. After two appalling years in 1980 and 1981, growth resumed in 1982 and strengthened in 1983 and 1984. In fact, every year from 1980 was better than the one before.

On inflation there has been gradual improvement. In 1980 the retail price index was on average 18.0 per cent higher than in 1979. The figure then declined for three years running. Last year was slightly worse than in 1983, but the deterioration can be explained

by the timing of mortgage rate changes.

Britain's external payments position can be measured in several ways. The current account on the balance of payments, which is the most familiar, has not recorded continuous progress. It shifted from marginal deficit of £500 million in 1979 to abundant surplus of £7.2 billion in 1981, but slipped to approximate balance in 1984. A surplus would still have been registered last year without the miners' strike.

Unemployment rose every year from 1979 to 1983 and is still rising. On this front there seem to be no encouraging signs. The situation appears to be worsening even now.

Although this is true, the rate of deterioration has moderated. From the middle of 1980 to the middle of 1981 unemployment increased by almost a million; in the year to November 1984 it increased by only 160,000.

Perhaps more fundamentally, recent demographic trends have been helpful as they have enlarged the population of working age. A less pessimistic interpretation emerges if attention is switched from unemployment to employment.

The employed labour force fell to every year from 1980 to 1983, but the fall was less in 1983 than in 1982. In 1984 there was actually an increase. Again, every recent year was better than the one before.

The conclusion is inescapable. In 1984, after three years in which the numbers became steadily more satisfactory, the economy improved again. The answer to our opening question is simple, and no amount of cleverness and nit-picking can disguise it.

There is, however, an objection to our exercise. The impression of gradual advance is valid because the base for comparison is 1980. But was not the position in 1980 so awful that it could only have got better afterwards? To this respect the exercise lacks persuasiveness.

The objection is fair enough and the Government's critics would be right to emphasize it. But they made the mistake of

overplaying their hand in the bad days of 1980 and 1981. Many of them, notably ex-Cabinet wets like Sir Ian Gilmour, claimed that the economy would never break out of recession unless policies were changed.

This claim has been shown to be wrong. The Government's view - that the economy had inbuilt forces capable of generating recovery without special reflationary measures - has been vindicated.

Admittedly, progress since 1980 has not been in a straight line and some of the wobbles, like the 3 per cent jump in base rates last July which marred 1984's economic performance, have been embarrassing. There will inevitably be more wobbles and more embarrassments.

But the Government does have a clearly-formulated strategic framework of monetary and fiscal policy to respond to occasional upsets. People know that decisions will be taken in accordance with that framework; they have a sense that the country is being governed from year to year rather than week to week.

Here, in the contrast with the wists, turns and somersaults of the "era of the two Harold's" and Mr. Heath, is the Government's most valuable achievement. To economic policy there is now a stability of expectations about the Government's behaviour that would have been unimaginable a decade ago. Sir Harold Wilson could not, with a straight face, have said "a year is a short time in economics"; Mrs. Thatcher can.

But the wider debate is not settled yet. Implicit in the Government's rejection of fiscal reflation is not just a belief that output and employment will return to acceptable levels without special stimulatory measures, but that there will do so while inflation is still falling.

Monetarism, or whatever other label the Government wants to attach to its policies remains very much on trial. The vital issue is whether low and declining inflation can be reconciled with above-trend output growth and falling unemployment. The verdict is still out.

The author is economic partner at stockbroker L. Messel & Co.

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THE ECONOMIC RECORD SINCE 1980

	% Increase in gross domestic product	% Increase in retail price index	Net UK external assets £bn	Employed labour force '000s
1980	-2.4	18.0	10	-72
1981	-1.3	11.9	30	-887
1982	-2.1	8.6	43	-836
1983	3.2	4.6	56	-184
1984	3.5	5.0	70	+243

Sources: Economic Trends and Autumn Statement.
Note: 1984 figures for GDP, retail price and net UK external assets are estimates. GDP figure is average estimate; retail price index is annual average; net UK external assets is end-year figure; and employed labour force is mid-year estimate.

England's 11 feeling shown as W Indies overhung with pall

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Calcutta

After a slow, though interesting, opening day, the third Test match was brought to a frustrating halt yesterday by rain and poor light. A pall hung over the sprawling city, allowing but 20 minutes play. With India still only 176 for four in their first innings, something remarkable will need to happen for a draw to be avoided. Today is the rest day.

Such weather at this time of year is unseasonal without being especially rare. Play was held up for three hours yesterday, the last of 1981-82, when they could ill afford it, and I remember spending an afternoon at the races in 1963-64, Eden Gardens being considered unfit for cricket. That the umpires decided against a prompt start at 9.45 yesterday morning in fact seemed ludicrous. Although the sun had not broken through - it never did - the light looked perfectly good enough, and noticeably better than when, at 10.30, there began the few hours there were. Meters are not used in India.

Having taken a new ball last thing on Monday, Over felt obliged to give his faster bowlers, and after two or three ominous consultations the umpires soon decided that it was too dark to be trying to play. "We would have been better off in England, but very soon it certainly was. By mid-morning a huge crocodile of a cover had rolled slowly into place, and that was it for the day. The rain, though always gentle, never let up for long.

On Monday England had ended their old year, not a good one for them by their reckoning, with three well drilled but rather untidy sessions in the field. Had the breaks gone their way, they might just about have bowled India out. The conditions would have been ideal for a pair of old-time county seamers, the pitch being still damp from its preparation and the ball swinging appreciably. In the circumstances, England must have been disappointed to finish the day with only four wickets.

Except when Amarnath hit him for three fours in an over, a cover drive and two short-arm hooks, Gavaskar bowled accurately and fast enough to fracture one of Gavaskar's fingers. Ellison was longer getting his line right, mainly because the ball swung so much, exclusively away from the right-handers. At Bombay, apparently, he bowled mainly inswingers, now they all went the other way. He seems to have difficulty mixing them up, and for the most part he swung the ball from the moment it left his hand. When, occasionally, he moved it late, the batsmen were nonplussed. One way and another, Ellison had a long, hard, worthy first day.

Despite getting the stammer back to his run-up, though nothing like at its worst, Edmonds took the wickets of Gavaskar, Amarnath and Vengsarkar for 24 runs in his first 20 overs. With only his third ball he had Gavaskar caught low down at slip, Amarnath was the classical left-arm's success, the ball turning just enough to find the edge of Gavaskar's forward stroke. Vengsarkar was bowled behind his legs, sweeping, and Amarnath caught at forward short leg, pushing ineffectively forward.

Edmonds always had two men more than three yards from the bat, sometimes three, two on the offside and one on the leg. It is not an attractive way of bowling and it seems to me to limit Edmonds's options by discouraging him from throwing the ball up for fear of imperiling his close fielders. But it would be churlish to make the point other than as an academic. His figures, for the moment, are his sure defence. In India's second innings at Delhi and on Monday they added up to 67 - 36 - 100 - 7.

To everyone's relief, I am sure, the trouble of the rain did not end on Monday, and it was still falling again yesterday when the sun lost its way. There have already been the usual chattering about the umpiring. Gavaskar was once "plum legged" when playing back to Cawson, so, some said, was Vengsarkar when sweeping at Pocock and Azharuddin who casten yesterday morning by Ellison. From high behind the line, Gavaskar looked decidedly lucky.

England have decided enthusiastically. Edmonds and Ellison being among those to have shaken the earth with full-throated saves. I thought Gatting might have been given two or three of the overs. Ellison had on Monday. He can swing the ball quite surprisingly at times. But Gower is playing it tight, which is a very good way in India.

Azharuddin, who is 21 not out, has won high marks in his first Test match, as much as anything for the way he settled in on Monday. Edmonds, however, he has been India were in some trouble at 127 for four.

Sydney (Agencies) - The umpires in the fifth and final Test match, Mel Johnson and Ray Isherwood, issued charges yesterday about the players' code of behaviour against Allan Border, the Australian captain, Steve Rixon, the wicketkeeper, and Viv Richards.

The charges arise out of incidents while Richards was batting during the third day of the Test. West Indies were dismissed for 163, six wickets falling to Bob Holland the 38-year-old leg-spin bowler. Following a 308 behind, they were 31 for one at the close.

The umpires alleged Border and Rixon indulged in abuse and did not heed requests to discontinue. The complaints lodged about Richards have been handed to the West Indian management. Richards is not subject to conditions laid down in the code of behaviour, which applies to Australian contract players.

Under conditions governing the code, Australia's team have appointed a committee of Graeme Wood, Kelpi Wessels and Andrew Hilditch to investigate the charges.

West Indies manager, Wes Hall, and his assistant, Carmine Smith, both denied last night that they had received notification of the umpires' action.

During his innings, Richards became engaged in animated conversation with Rixon and Border about a chance which Australia felt Wood had taken. The incident happened in the sixteenth over by Murray Bennett, the left-arm spin bowler, and observers believe the ball could have come off the pad on to Richards' glove before being taken by Wood. Richards had an earlier "hit" at six which could have been a costly let-off. He was dropped by Ritchie off Holland at mid-off.

Australian spirits were high as the West Indian wickets tumbled and the competitive keenness was evident in the fielding and the disappointment at near misses.

Holland captured six for 54 as Australia skittled the West Indies

and forced them to follow on. West Indies face an immense task on the last two days to try and avoid their first defeat in 28 Tests.

Holland, playing in his third Test, exploited a wearing pitch to rout the touring team after Australia scored a further 57 for the loss of three wickets in the first session and declared at 471 for nine.

McDermott, the 18-year-old fast bowler, in his second Test appearance, made the early inroads.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings
A J Wood c Deon b Holland 45
S Rixon c Rixon b Holland 45
G M Wood c Rixon b Holland 37
A R Border c Rixon b Holland 36
C E Smith c Rixon b Holland 29
R S Rixon c Rixon b Holland 20
M J Bennett c Rixon b Holland 10
G F Lawson not out 5
C A McDonald c Rixon b Holland 4
Extras (b 1, lb 1, nb 1) 4
Total (2 wickets) 471
Did not bat: R G Holland.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-25, 3-338, 4-342, 5-350, 6-392, 7-450, 8-463, 9-471.

BOWLING: McDonald, 37-2-111-2; Gower, 31-1-101-2; Holland, 31-2-74-3; Walsh, 30-2-118-2; Games 12-28-1; Richards, 7-2-1-0.

WEST INDIES: First Innings
C G Greenidge c Rixon b McDermott 38
D L Hayden c Wessels b Holland 24
R S Richardson c McDermott 12
H A Gomes c Bennett b Holland 28
I V A Richards c Wessels b Holland 22
C R Lloyd c Wood b Holland 22
M J Hogg c Hilditch b McDermott 22
M G Marshall c Rixon b Holland 0
J Ganger c Rixon b Holland 0
C A Walsh not out 10
Extras (b 3, nb 7) 10
Total 163

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-26, 2-34, 3-72, 4-103, 5-108, 6-160, 7-160, 8-160, 9-160.

BOWLING: Lawson, 3-1-27-2; McDermott, 8-2-34-2; Bennett, 22-42-46-2; Holland, 22-7-54-4.

Second Innings
C G Greenidge not out 12
D L Hayden c McDermott 3
R S Richardson not out 11
Extras (b 1, nb 4) 4
Total (1 wicket) 31

FALL OF WICKET: 1-7.

BOWLING: McDermott 3-0-15-1; Bennett 3-2-6-0; Holland 2-0-4-0.



Richards (left), not bound by code, and Rixon who is



Mendis joins de Silva in victory chase

Perth (Reuters) - Adventurous batting by the captain, Duleep Mendis, and the teenage Aravinda de Silva, followed by a five-wicket spell from Vinodhan Jha, left the Sri Lankans in sight of victory over Western Australia here yesterday.

At the close of the second day in the three-day match the touring side were 67 for two in their second innings, needing 41 to win.

Mendis, with a dazzling 67 in over time, and de Silva, who hit 40, rescued the Sri Lankans from 87 for four with a spectacular partnership of 96 in 50 minutes. Mendis then declared at 217 for eight, 28 behind the home side's first innings total. Western Australia were dismissed for 79 in their second innings.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA: First Innings
G R Marsh c Silva b de Mel 8
A C Clements c Dias b J R Ranasinghe 60
M Hogg c de Mel b Ranasinghe 18
R Garsell c Westmurray b de Mel 21
P Gonsky c Dias b de Mel 0
D Smith c Ranasinghe b J R Ranasinghe 89
J J Zoorover not out 25
G Bush not out 1
Extras (b 4, lb 7, nb 9) 20
Total (7 wickets) 245

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-17, 2-20, 3-109, 4-135, 5-141, 6-163, 7-206.

BOWLING: de Mel, 19-3-65-3; Jha, 19-2-60-0; J R Ranasinghe, 19-1-48-2; R J Ranasinghe, 1-0-13-0; Ranasinghe, 8-2-20-1; Westmurray, 3-3-0-0.

Second Innings
G R Marsh b Jha 13
C Clements c Jha b J R Ranasinghe 19
M Hogg b Jha 6
Total (4 wickets) 178

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-28, 2-35, 3-126, 4-127.

To bat: M H Kirmann, M Prabhakar, S N Yadav, L Sivaramakrishnan, Chetan Sharma.

BOWLING: de Mel, 17-4-60-4; Edmonds, 25-12-49-0; Pocock, 20-7-38-4.

ENGLAND: G Fowler, R T Robinson, M W Gatting, J L Houghton, G Coward.

PAKISTAN: P R Edwards, R R Ellison, P F Deonand, R G Gurnea.

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Pakistan tour

Karachi (Reuters) - The Pakistan team leave for Auckland tomorrow to play three Tests, four one-day internationals and two three-day matches. The tour of New Zealand starts with a three-day game against Canterbury in Christchurch beginning on January 8.

The team will later travel to Australia to play in the one-day series to mark the 150th anniversary of the State of Victoria.

England steady

Brisbane (Reuters) - England's women cricketers moved into a healthy position on the first day of the third Test against Australia here yesterday. After winning the toss for the third time in the series, England built their position on steady, although occasionally slow, batting to be 330 for six at the close.

South England 230 for 6; Brian 36, Southgate 74, Foster 2-53; Australia.

ATHLETICS

Miss Budd may reveal plans today

Zola Budd's South African connections are still causing concern and expected to meet British Amateur Athletic Board officials in London today. Her adviser is a prominent South African athletics official, Jamie Momborg, which may pose problems.

Nigel Cooper, secretary of the British Board, said: "We hope to meet Momborg and possibly Zola to find out her plans. We are aware of Momborg's position and it means it's like walking a tightrope. It is an area we'll treat with the utmost diplomacy."

SAO PAULO: Carlos Lopes (Portugal), the Olympic marathon champion, won the New Year's Eve

Miss Budd may reveal plans today

round-the-houses race through the streets of Sao Paulo. He covered the 12.6 kilometre course in 36 min 43.79 sec.

MEXICO: C Lopez (Port) 36min 43.79sec; J J de Silva (Port) 37.00; J J de Silva (Port) 37.01; A D Thabatha (Col) 37.23; S S Salazar (Col) 37.21; A V Mora (Col) 38.02; 2. A from 1981; 3. A from 1981; 4. A from 1981; 5. A from 1981; 6. A from 1981; 7. A from 1981; 8. A from 1981; 9. A from 1981; 10. A from 1981; 11. A from 1981; 12. A from 1981; 13. A from 1981; 14. A from 1981; 15. A from 1981; 16. A from 1981; 17. A from 1981; 18. A from 1981; 19. A from 1981; 20. A from 1981; 21. A from 1981; 22. A from 1981; 23. A from 1981; 24. A from 1981; 25. A from 1981; 26. A from 1981; 27. A from 1981; 28. A from 1981; 29. A from 1981; 30. A from 1981; 31. A from 1981; 32. A from 1981; 33. A from 1981; 34. A from 1981; 35. A from 1981; 36. A from 1981; 37. A from 1981; 38. A from 1981; 39. A from 1981; 40. A from 1981; 41. A from 1981; 42. A from 1981; 43. A from 1981; 44. A from 1981; 45. A from 1981; 46. A from 1981; 47. A from 1981; 48. A from 1981; 49. A from 1981; 50. A from 1981; 51. A from 1981; 52. A from 1981; 53. A from 1981; 54. A from 1981; 55. A from 1981; 56. A from 1981; 57. A from 1981; 58. A from 1981; 59. A from 1981; 60. A from 1981; 61. A from 1981; 62. A from 1981; 63. A from 1981; 64. A from 1981; 65. A from 1981; 66. A from 1981; 67. A from 1981; 68. A from 1981; 69. A from 1981; 70. A from 1981; 71. A from 1981; 72. A from 1981; 73. A from 1981; 74. A from 1981; 75. A from 1981; 76. A from 1981; 77. A from 1981; 78. A from 1981; 79. A from 1981; 80. A from 1981; 81. A from 1981; 82. A from 1981; 83. A from 1981; 84. A from 1981; 85. A from 1981; 86. A from 1981; 87. A from 1981; 88. A from 1981; 89. A from 1981; 90. A from 1981; 91. A from 1981; 92. A from 1981; 93. A from 1981; 94. A from 1981; 95. A from 1981; 96. A from 1981; 97. A from 1981; 98. A from 1981; 99. A from 1981; 100. A from 1981; 101. A from 1981; 102. A from 1981; 103. A from 1981; 104

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